



Nottinghamshire  
County Council

# Southwell Library Poetry Festival

3-9 July 2011

## Southwell Library Poetry Festival

libraries  
culture poetry

Simon Armitage John Harvey Brian Moses  
Chrissie Gittins Pauline Prior-Pitt Andy Croft  
Matthew Welton Tom Warner Sarah Jackson



Readings • Poetry Workshops • Open Mic • Pub Crawl  
Your Favourite Poem • Poetry and Jazz • and much, much more

[www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/poetryfestival](http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/poetryfestival)

# booking information

## Festival Box Office:

Bookings for any of the events can be made at Southwell Library in person or by phone on: 01636 812148 - credit and debit cards accepted.

## By post:

Please indicate the event and number of tickets and enclose a cheque made payable to Nottinghamshire County Council. Send to:

Southwell Library, The Bramley Centre, King Street, Southwell, Nottinghamshire, NG25 0EH

## Email enquiries:

[southwell.library@nottsc.gov.uk](mailto:southwell.library@nottsc.gov.uk)



## Access information:

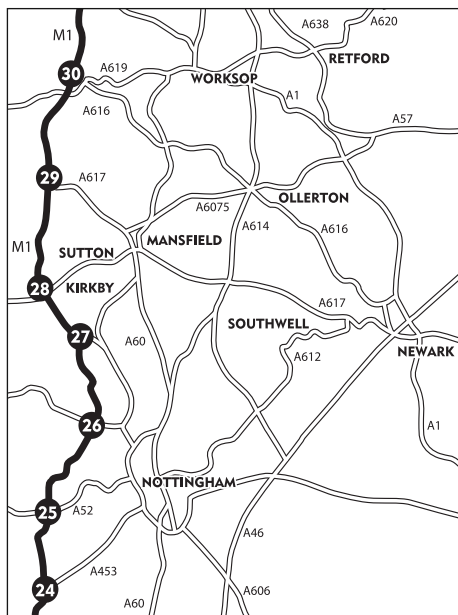
Nottinghamshire County Council is committed to providing equality of access. All venues provide access for disabled people and are fitted with induction loops. We want everyone to be able to enjoy and participate in these events. If you require the services of a British Sign Language interpreter at an event, please contact Southwell Library.

## Where to find us:

Southwell is 14 miles from Nottingham (see map).

The nearest station is Newark which is eight miles away.

There is a rural Pathfinder service from Nottingham (no. 100 from outside Boots at Victoria Centre) and Stagecoach Lincolnshire has a service to Mansfield and Newark.



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**Events take place at Southwell Library except where specified.**

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[www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/poetryfestival](http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/poetryfestival)

# Welcome to Southwell Library Poetry Festival 2011

Our Poetry Festival is going from strength to strength. After last year's festival the most frequent comment on our feedback forms was a request for another festival, for more of the same. We can't repeat every event but we can aim for the same buzz, the same interest and excitement, the same mix of established and emerging poets, as well as talks and workshops and a chance to read and listen to your favourite poems.

Our festival opens on Sunday 3 July with readings by Pauline Prior-Pitt and Simon Armitage, followed on Monday by something we haven't tried before – Jazz and Poetry with John Harvey and jazz quartet Second Nature, and of course we couldn't miss the opportunity to celebrate American Independence Day.

On Wednesday we have our second Southwell Poetry Pub Crawl. This was one of the highlights of last year's festival. Once more we'll share old favourites and some of our own poems in a congenial atmosphere as we tour the pubs of the area.

For children we have the acclaimed performance poet Brian Moses and we suspect a lot of adults will enjoy his poetry too. The three 'Rs' were never like this before!

On Friday we focus on the valuable part poetry can play in our lives and welcome speakers from the Reader Project who will read from their popular new book *A Little Aloud*. On Saturday we have a host of workshops and readings and bring the festival to an end with an Open Mic session.

As well as our programmed events we will be working with community groups, visiting residential homes and promoting poetry in public places. Southwell Minster, local shops, groups and individuals have all helped to make the programme for the festival varied and interesting by hosting events and giving us ideas and encouragement.

The impact of the festival is cultural, educational, economic and very social as old and new friends visit Nottinghamshire and take part in a unique event which the County Council is proud to part of.

As always we are grateful to our festival supporters and volunteers and look forward to yet another successful year.

Councillor John Cottee  
*Cabinet Member for Culture and  
Community  
Nottinghamshire County Council*

Peter Gaw  
*Head of Libraries,  
Archives & Information  
Nottinghamshire County Council*

# sunday 3 July

## Festival Opening event

### Reading

**Pauline Prior-Pitt**

**2.00pm – 3.00pm**

£5

Pauline, who is appearing by popular request, writes about everything from political issues to love, death and dresses, as well as the landscape of North Uist, where she lives. She will be reading from her latest *Collection Holding Close*. Don't miss this witty and vibrant performance.

### Tea and Poetry

**4.30pm – 6.00pm**

£4 - Includes tea and cake

**Venue: Minster Refectory**

Join Jenny Swann and Di Slaney from Candlestick Press as they read from *Ten Poems about Tea* celebrating the joy, the romance and general bliss of tea and tea-time. They will be inviting you to raise a steaming cup to Thomas Hardy, John Betjemen, Carol Ann Duffy and others.

## Festival Highlight

### Reading

**Simon Armitage**

**7.00pm – 8.00pm**

£10 / £8

**Venue: Southwell Minster**

Simon Armitage CBE, one of our most high profile poets, is also a novelist and playwright and well-known to television and radio audiences. We are delighted that he will be reading in the magnificent setting of Southwell Minster, choosing poems from some of his ten collections of poetry and his acclaimed translation of *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*.

## **Poems from America**

**2.00pm – 4.00pm**

£3 - Including cookies

Help us commemorate Independence Day with readings of our favourite poems from the USA. From Hiawatha to contemporary poems by way of the works of Emily Dickinson and Robert Frost.

## ***Festival Highlight***

### **American Jazz and Poetry**

In association with Jazz Steps

**8.00pm – 10.00pm (Doors: 7.30pm)**

£10 / £8

An evening of poetry and jazz live in the library on 4 July. Award-winning crime writer and poet, John Harvey, takes to the stage to perform poetry about great jazz musicians, including Chet Baker, Thelonious Monk, and Art Pepper, all set to the excellent accompaniment of modern jazz quartet, Second Nature. Join us to mark American Independence Day in style. An original performance in an original setting, brought to the festival for the first time in association with Jazz Steps - who bring high quality live jazz and contemporary music to Nottinghamshire audiences.

## **Images of a Poet** **Ralph Lloyd-Jones**

**2.00pm – 3.30pm**

£3

Byron is considered to have been one of the most beautiful authors who ever lived. We will look at images of him, ranging from allegorical portrayals by European artists to contemporary cartoons, graphic novels and films. An informative and entertaining afternoon with Ralph Lloyd-Jones, local librarian and Byron scholar.

## **Book Launch**

**5.30pm – 6.15pm**

Free event

Five Leaves Publications invites you to join them for the launch of Adrian Buckner's new collection *Bed Time Reading*, a sequence of lyrical poems on re-reading in middle age the books first read in the poet's youth.

“You will not find poetry anywhere unless you bring some of it with you.”

*Joseph Joubert (1754-1824)*  
*French moralist*

## **Reading**

**Tom Warner and Andy Croft**

**6.30pm – 7.30pm**

£3 - Book for both the reading and lecture for £5

A return visit by both poets. Tom Warner, who read last year, was awarded the Eric Gregory prize in 2001 and led the successful Poetry-on-Trent project in 2009. Andrew Motion has said "Thomas Warner is one of the most interesting poets I've taught...I've no doubt we'll be hearing more of him in the future". Andy Croft is a regular visitor to our festival. He was poet in residence in 2001 and his poems on Southwell are included in his collection *Sticky*. He writes with "wit and brio" (*Guardian*).

## **Poetry Lecture**

**Andy Croft on the Common Music of Poetry**

**8.00pm – 9.00pm**

£3 - Book for both the reading and lecture for £5

Andy explores the popular, democratic and radical potential of poetry.

## **Pub Crawl**

**7.30pm – 10pm**

Free event

No booking necessary.

Meet at Southwell Library.

Come and join festival poets and poetry lovers and make this event even more fun than last year. Read your own work or your favourite poems in pubs around Southwell, led by MulletProofPoet.

Ask at the library for details of venues and approximate timings. Join us at any time and stay as long as you like. All venues will be fully accessible.

“Poetry is not an expression of the party line. It's that time of night, lying in bed, thinking what you really think, making the private world public, that's what the poet does.”

*Allen Ginsberg (1926-1997) U.S. poet*

“Poetry should please by a fine excess and not by singularity. It should strike the reader as a wording of his own highest thoughts, and appear almost as a remembrance.”

*John Keats*

## **Master Class: The Poetry of Place**

**10.00am – 2.00pm**

£8 / £6

Rosie Garner, whose collection *Rain Diaries* has been short listed for the East Midlands Book Awards, leads this master class with poet and novelist Nigel Pickard.

*This event is sponsored by  
Writing East Midlands.*



## **Festival Highlight**

### **Brian Moses and his Poetry and Percussion Show:**

#### **The Alternative 3Rs**

**- Rhyme, Rhythm and Rap**

**1.00pm – 2.00pm**

**Venue: Southwell Minster**

£5

Brian Moses' poetry embraces the familiar and the fantastic ranging from shopping trolleys and football matches, to monsters, dragons and aliens. In this energetic performance for a specially invited audience of children from Nottinghamshire schools, he will be bringing his words to life with a variety of percussion instruments.

A limited number of tickets are also available to the public, so join us for a fun-packed session with this popular and effervescent poet.

*This event is supported by Southwell Minster Education Department.*

## **Reading Matthew Welton**

**6.00pm – 6.30pm**

£3

Matthew Welton has received acclaim for the way his playful approach to language produces intensely musical poems full of beautiful imagery. His performances are part stand-up comedy, part rock gig and part conceptual art. He includes work by some of the writers who have influenced his own poems. Expect something by e.e. cummings, Philip Larkin, Wallace Stevens, and a few surprises too.

## **Reading Four Quartets by T.S.Eliot**

**7.30pm – 9.30pm**

£3

A unique opportunity to hear this important and influential poem read by members of Nottingham Stanza Group. With musical interludes.

*This event is hosted by Folio Magazine.*

## Poetry for Life

10.00am – 12.00pm

£4

Poet Cathy Grindrod joins Sheelagh Gallagher from Nottinghamshire Libraries to examine the idea that poetry can help us understand and live our lives, demonstrating the potential power of poetry with readings and writing exercises.

## Your Favourite Poem

2.00pm – 3.30pm

Free event

Southwell Library's Poetry Reading Group invites you to bring along your favourite poem to read or listen to. If you can only remember a fragment, library staff will be on hand to help you find those elusive poems.

## Mouthy Poets

6.00pm – 7.00pm

£3

Poet Deborah Stevenson will host this session with Mouthy Poets who she describes as having a "broad spectrum of ages, ethnicities and perspectives in a performance that is a poetic and political sit-in". Don't miss this exciting showcase of new talent!

## A Little Aloud

7.30pm – 9.00pm

£5

Join Editor Angela Macmillan, reading from *A Little Aloud*. This new compilation of poetry and prose has proved enormously popular for people to dip into and to share with others by reading aloud. Angela also talks about Liverpool's Get into Reading Project, which has made it possible for people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities to enjoy and engage with literature on a deep and personal level.

"If I feel physically as if the top of my head were taken off, I know that is poetry."

*Emily Dickinson (1830-1886)  
American poet*

# saturday 9 July

## Day Programme

Workshops. Pay for two get one free.

### **The Poetry of the Beatles Part 2**

**10.00am – 10.45am**

Nicola Ellis on the poetry of  
The Beatles.

### **The Sonnet**

**11.00am – 11.45am**

Gill Starkey unveils the secret history  
of the sonnet.

### **The Toad**

**12.00pm – 12.45pm**

Kirsty Blyth starts this discussion of  
Philip Larkin's Poetry with a close  
reading of 'Toad'

### **List poems**

**12.00pm – 12.45pm**

Pippa Hennessy asks if list poems  
are as simple as they look.

### **Art and Poetry**

**1.00pm – 1.45pm**

Jenny Spencer looks at the  
relationship between Art and  
Poetry and gives tips on how to use  
art to inspire your own poetry.

### **Desert Island Poems**

**2.00pm – 2.45pm**

Jenny Spencer interviews local  
resident Lady Victoria Starkey.

### **Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?**

**4.00pm – 4.45pm**

Deirdre O'Byrne shares poetry  
about summer.

## Voice Versa

**5.00pm – 5.45pm**

Performed readings from Gill, Kay,  
Janet, Margaret and Sue.

## Evening Programme

### Reading

#### **Chrissie Gittins**

#### **and Sarah Jackson**

**6.45pm – 7.45pm**

Chrissie's poetry for both adults  
and children has won numerous  
awards. She is included in the British  
Council's Database of the 600  
writers "regarded as the best of UK  
and Commonwealth writers". She  
has read at exotic venues in  
Bangkok and New York and at  
festivals and universities all over the  
UK. And now Southwell Library!

Sarah Jackson is a recent and very  
welcome addition to the poetry  
scene in Nottingham. Her poems  
have been published widely and  
she features in Bloodaxe's 2009  
anthology Voice Recognition.  
Definitely not to be missed!

### Open Mic

#### **Hosted by Wayne Burrows from Staple Magazine**

**8.15pm – 10.30pm**

Free event

Five minute slots . Pre-book by  
calling Southwell Library.

# at a glance

[www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/poetryfestival](http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/poetryfestival)

Events take place at Southwell Library except where specified in the event title.

Sunday 3 July		
2.00pm – 3.00pm	Reading: Pauline Prior-Pitt	£5
4.30pm – 6pm	Tea and Poetry at Minster Refectory	£4
7.00pm – 8.00pm	Reading: Simon Armitage at Southwell Minster	£10/8
Monday 4 July		
2.00pm – 4.00pm	Poems from America	£3
8.00pm – 10.00pm	American Jazz & Poetry with John Harvey and Second Nature	£10/8
Tuesday 5 July		
2.00pm – 3.30pm	Byron: Image of a Poet	£3
5.30pm – 6.15pm	Book Launch: Adrian Buckner	Free
6.30pm – 7.30pm	Reading: Tom Warner and Andy Croft	£3
8.00pm – 9.00pm	Lecture: Andy Croft on The Common Music of Poetry	£3
Wednesday 6 July		
7.30pm – 10.00pm	Pub Crawl	Free
Thursday 7 July		
10.00am – 2.00pm	Master Class: Rosie Garner and Nigel Pickard	£8/6
1.00pm – 2.00pm	Performance: Brian Moses at Southwell Minster	£5
6.00pm – 6.30pm	Reading: Matthew Welton	£3
7.30pm – 9.30pm	Four Quartets: Stanza Group	£3
Friday 8 July		
10.00am – 12.00pm	Poems for Life: Cathy Grindrod and Sheelagh Gallagher	£4
2.00pm – 3.30pm	Your Favourite Poem	Free
6.00pm – 7.00pm	Reading: Mouthy Poets	£3
7.30pm	A Little Aloud with Angela Macmillan	£5
Saturday 9 July		
10.00am – 10.45am	Poetry of the Beatles (2) Nicola Ellis	£3
11.00am – 11.45am	Sonnets: Gill Starkey	£3
12.00pm – 12.45pm	Toads: Kirsty Blyth	£3
1.00pm – 1.45pm	List Poems: Pippa Hennessy	£3
2.00pm – 2.45pm	Art and Poetry :Jenny Spencer	£3
3.00pm – 3.45pm	Desert Island Poetry: Jenny Spencer	£3
4.00pm – 4.45pm	Shall I compare thee to a summer's day? Deirdre O'Byrne	£3
5.00pm – 5.45pm	Voice Versa	£3
6.45pm – 7.45pm	Reading: Chrissie Gittins and Sarah Jackson	£5
8.15pm	Open Mic with Wayne Burrows from Staple magazine	Free

## Bookings

Bookings for all events can be taken at Southwell Library: 01636 812148

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Nottinghamshire County Council  
Mapperley Library, 454 Westdale Lane, Mapperley  
Nottingham NG3 6DG**

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## Contacting us

email **contactlibraries@nottscc.gov.uk**  
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published **May 2011**

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