



#LeicesterWrites Schedule

TUESDAY 5th JUNE 2018						
Writers Meet Up Leicester	Bru Coffee and Gelato, 20-22 Granby Street, Leicester, LE1 1DE	10:30 AM – 12:30 PM		<p>Writers Meet Up is a relaxed and informal meet up for writers living in and around Leicestershire. We're a friendly group and welcome newbies.</p> <p>The format: Buy a drink, choose a table, introduce yourself and see where the conversation leads...</p> <p>Join us for the usual monthly networking event for writerly inspiration and advice.</p>		
TUESDAY 12th JUNE 2018						
Leicester Book Prize Readings + festival launch	Exchange Bar, Cellar, 50 Rutland St, Leicester, LE1 1RD	6:30 PM – 8:30 PM		<p>Join us to celebrate the launch of this year's festival programme and find out more about the people and events taking place across the month.</p> <p>We'll also be inviting this year's shortlist of the Leicester Book Prize to compete for the title of Leicester Book of the Year. Finalists of this year's prize will have just 5 minutes to pitch their book and tell us why they entered the prize. The winning writer will receive a trophy and a chocolate brownie.</p> <p>This year's shortlist includes: Rod Duncan, Rob Palk, Mahsuda Snaith and Maud Wainwright-Pilton</p>		

TUESDAY 26th JUNE 2018						
The Hybrid Author	Exchange Bar Cellar, 50 Rutland St, Leicester, LE1 1RD	6:30 PM – 8:00 PM		<p>On the eve of National Writing Day we will be joined by writers Siobhan Logan and Rod Duncan from the Writers' Shed.</p> <p>The validation of a publishing house was once the only way to be taken seriously as a writer. Then came the self-publishing revolution and a new route opened up. But in recent years a third way has begun to emerge - hybrid authorship. In this session Rod Duncan and Siobhan Logan explore the reasons why some writers are using both traditional and self publishing. Is it a messy compromise or the best of both worlds?</p> <p>This joint-talk will offer an insight into how writers can get ahead by exploiting the various routes to publication.</p>	Rod Duncan Siobhan Logan	
SATURDAY 30th JUNE 2018						
The Art of the Short Story	LCB Depot, Rutland St, Leicester, LE1 1RE	10:30 AM – 11:30 AM		In this session, Divya Ghelani will introduce and discuss several prizewinning short stories to assess short fiction techniques that are classic as well as experimental. She'll cover aspects of character, voice, language, and intrigue within the short story form. This workshop is perfect for anyone looking to understand how the short form works and wants to write a successful short story. This session will include a number of writing exercises.	Divya Ghelani	
Short Fiction: An Editor's Perspective	LCB Depot, Rutland St, Leicester,	11:30 AM – 12:30 PM		How do editors assess short fiction submissions? What are they looking for from short stories and flash fiction?	Rupert Dastur	

	LE1 1RE			In this session, Rupert Dastur, senior editor at The Short Story will discuss what he likes and doesn't like to see from manuscripts. He will offer an insight into how writers can edit their stories so they are ready for publication and offer suggestions on how to manage submissions. Rupert will also share his ultimate list of who to follow and what to read so you can learn from the best. With useful tips and tricks, this session is a must for anyone looking to build their career as a writer.		
Lunch						
How to publish a short story collection	LCB Depot, Rutland St, Leicester, LE1 1RE	1:30 – 2:30 PM		Join Dahlia Publishing editor, Farhana Shaikh and short story writers, Rebecca Burns and CG Menon as they discuss the process of putting together a short story collection. This session will discuss the publishing process as well as how writers select, organise and write short stories for a collection. Featuring readings and a book signing.	Rebecca Burns Catherine Menon	
In Transit: From short stories to novels	LCB Depot, Rutland St, Leicester, LE1 1RE	3 PM – 4 PM		How do writers transition from writing short stories to writing a novel? What skills do they develop in the process and what is it really like to work across forms? In this session, writers share their experiences of starting their careers by writing short stories before turning their hand to novel writing. Featuring readings from award winning writer, Jon McGregor and Man Booker prize shortlisted, Alison Moore. Chaired by debut novelist and award winning short story writer, Mahsuda Snaith. Jon McGregor is unable to attend. Megan Taylor will now be joining the panel.	Jon McGregor Alison Moore Mahsuda Snaith Megan Taylor	

Leicester Writes Short Story Prize Anthology Launch	LCB Depot, Rutland St, Leicester, LE1 1RE	4:30 PM – 6:00 PM		Join us to celebrate this year's winning short stories in our prize giving ceremony and anthology launch. With readings from some of this year's winners. Leicester Writes Short Story Prize was launched in 2017 to celebrate original short story writing. The judging panel included writers Rebecca Burns, Jon McGregor and last year's first prize winner, CG Menon.		
TUESDAY 3rd JULY 2018						
Writers Meet Up Leicester	Bru Coffee and Gelato, 20-22 Granby Street, Leicester, LE1 1DE	10:30 AM – 12:30 AM	Free, just turn up	<p>Writers Meet Up is a relaxed and informal meet up for writers living in and around Leicestershire. We're a friendly group and welcome newbies.</p> <p>The format: Buy a drink, choose a table, introduce yourself and see where the conversation leads...</p> <p>Join us at our brand new venue for the usual monthly networking event to set your summer writing goals and feedback on this year's festival.</p>		

Speaker bios

Rebecca Burns is writer of short stories and fiction. Her work has been published in over thirty online and print journals, including *The London Magazine*, *Words With Jam*, *Per Contra*, and *Controlled Burn*. She has won or been placed in many competitions: Fowey Festival of Words and Music Short Story Competition, 2013, Black Pear Press Short Story Competition, University of Sunderland Short Story Award, Evesham Festival Story Competition and Chipping Norton Short Story Award. Her debut collection of short stories, *Catching the Barrmundi*, was published by Odyssey Books in 2012 and was longlisted for the Edge Hill Award, the UK's only prize for short story collections. Her second collection, *The Settling Earth* (2014) was also longlisted for the Edge Hill. She sits on the Steering Committee of the Grace Dieu Writer's Group in Coalville. She has been profiled by the University's Grassroutes Project as one of the 50 best transcultural writers in the county. She lives in Leicestershire with her husband and young family. Her debut novel, *The Bishop's Girl*, was published by Odyssey Books in 2016.

Rupert Dastur is a writer, editor, and founding director of TSS Publishing, an independent publisher that specialises in short fiction. He's also director of the Cambridge Short Story Prize and Associate Editor at The Word Factory. His own work has appeared in a number of places online and in print.

Rod Duncan writes alternate history and crime. His novels have been shortlisted for the Philip K. Dick Award and the John Creasey Dagger. A dyslexic with a background in scientific research, he now lectures in creative writing at DeMontfort University. His latest novel, *The Queen of All Crows*, is published by Angry Robot. He has recently self-published his story *Tricks of the Light*.

Divya Ghelani is a Leicestershire writer based between the UK and Berlin. She did an MA in Prose Fiction at the UEA and an MPhil in Literary Studies at the University of Hong Kong. She is Programme Associate at the Word Factory and the recipient for an Arts Council grant. Her first novel has been shortlisted for PRH #WriteNowLive, longlisted for the inaugural Deborah Rogers Writers' Award, the SI Leeds Literary Prize, and received an Honorary Mention in the Harry Bowling Prize.

Siobhan Logan's poetry/prose collections *Firebridge to Skyshore* and *Mad, Hopeless and Possible* are published by Original Plus. Her work ranges across media from page to performance, with stories and poems appearing in numerous anthologies and magazines. A digital narrative, *Philae's Book of Hours*, was published by the European Space Agency website. Logan teaches Creative Writing at De Montfort University and the Writing School.

Jon McGregor is the author of four novels and a story collection. He is the winner of the IMPAC Dublin Literature Prize, Betty Trask Prize, and Somerset Maugham Award, and has twice been longlisted for the Man Booker Prize (2002, *If Nobody Speaks of Remarkable Things*, 2006, *So Many Ways To Begin*). He is Professor of Creative Writing at the University of Nottingham, where he edits *The Letters Page*, a literary journal in letters. He was born in Bermuda in 1976, grew up in Norfolk, and now lives in Nottingham.

C. G. Menon was born in Australia and now lives in London. Her short story collection, *Subjunctive Moods*, is coming out in June from Dahlia Publishing. She has won the Bare Fiction Prize, the Leicester Writes Prize, The Short Story Award, the Asian Writer Prize, The TBL Short Story Award and the Winchester Writers Festival award. She's been shortlisted for the Fish short story prize, the Bridport prize and the Short Fiction Journal awards, as well as the Willesden Herald, Rubery and WriteIdea prizes and the Fiction Desk Newcomer award. Her work has been published in a number of anthologies and broadcast on radio, and she's also been a judge for several short story prizes, including this year's Leicester Writes competition. She's currently studying for a creative writing MA at City University and working on her first novel.

Alison Moore's short fiction has been included in *Best British Short Stories* and *Best British Horror* anthologies and broadcast on BBC Radio. Her first novel, *The Lighthouse*, was shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize and the National Book Awards, winning the McKitterick Prize. Her fourth novel, *Missing*, is out in May, and her first book for children, *Sunny and the Ghosts*, will be published in November.

Mahsuda Snaith is the winner of the *SI Leeds Literary Prize 2014* and *Bristol Short Story Prize 2014*. Her short stories have been anthologised by *The Asian Writer*, *Words with Jam* and *Closure: Contemporary Black British Stories*. Her debut novel *The Things We Thought We Knew* was published in 2017 and she was named an 'Observer New Face of Fiction' in the same year. Mahsuda has led creative writing workshops in universities, hospitals, schools and in a hostel for the vulnerably homed. She regularly performs her work at festivals. To find out more visit www.mahsudasnaith.com.

Megan Taylor, from Nottingham, is the author of three novels, 'How We Were Lost' (Flame Books, 2007), 'The Dawning' (Weathervane Press, 2010) and 'The Lives of Ghosts' (Weathervane Press, 2012), as well as a collection, 'The Woman Under the Ground and Other Stories' (Weathervane Press, 2014). Megan's short stories have been placed in several competitions; recently she made the shortlist of The Brighton Prize 2017 and the Walter Swan Prize 2017-18. Further stories are available or forthcoming in various publications including the Dark Lane Anthology (Volumes 6 and 7) and Neon. She is also working on her fourth novel. For more information please visit www.megantaylor.info