



# Southwell Library Poetry Festival

## 11-19 July 2009

**Saturday 18 July. 1.00pm-2.15pm.**

**Carol Ann Duffy for Beginners, with Cathy Grindrod**

A look at the life and work of the new Poet Laureate, including discussion of poems from her recent collections, which will be handed out on the day.

Cathy Grindrod organised the first Southwell Poetry Festival in 2000 and was until recently the Poet Laureate for Derbyshire.

[www.contemporarywriters.com/authors](http://www.contemporarywriters.com/authors).

Tickets: £3.00 (£2.00 concessions).

**Saturday 18 July. 2.30pm-4.00pm.**

**The Seven Ages of Man (and Woman), with Deirdre O'Byrne**

Deirdre O'Byrne discusses a set of poems following Shakespeare's Seven Ages in As You Like It: infant, school-child, lover, soldier, justice, "pantaloon", and second childhood.

Tickets: £3 including tea and biscuits.

**And one man in his time plays many parts,**

*His acts being seven ages. At first the infant,  
Mewling and puking in the nurse's arms.  
Then, the whining schoolboy with his satchel  
And shining morning face, creeping like snail  
Unwillingly to school. And then the lover,  
Sighing like furnace, with a woeful ballad  
Made to his mistress' eyebrow. Then a soldier,  
Full of strange oaths, and bearded like the pard,  
Jealous in honour, sudden, and quick in quarrel,  
Seeking the bubble reputation  
Even in the cannon's mouth. And then the justice  
In fair round belly, with good capon lin'd,  
With eyes severe, and beard of formal cut,  
Full of wise saws, and modern instances,  
And so he plays his part. The sixth age shifts  
Into the lean and slipper'd pantaloon,  
With spectacles on nose, and pouch on side,  
His youthful hose well sav'd, a world too wide,  
For his shrunken shank, and his big manly voice,  
Turning again towards childish treble, pipes  
And whistles in his sound. Last scene of all,  
That ends this strange eventful history,  
Is second childishness and mere oblivion,  
Sans teeth, sans eyes, sans taste, sans everything.*



Jean "Binta" Breeze

**Saturday 18 July.**

**7.30pm-9.30pm. Jean 'Binta' Breeze with Kevin Fegan**

Jean 'Binta' Breeze is a writer and performer of international standing. She grew up in Jamaica where she was

known as a 'Dub Poet'. She has performed her work on tours of the UK, Ireland, the Caribbean, America, Europe, Asia and Africa. Her poetry reveals a generous and uncompromising vision, exploring a wide range of personal, social and political issues. Jean has a striking stage presence, generating the excitement of a full-blown theatrical performance.

Kevin Fegan's poetry books include *Matey Boy*, commissioned by Welfare State International; *Blast* commissioned by BBC Radio 4, followed by a stage version for the Manchester Poetry Festival; *Racer* commissioned by BBC Radio 4 and *Let Your Left Hand Sing*, commissioned by The Long Journey Home Festival. He has also written over 40 stage plays and will read from some of his verse plays.

[www.57productions.com](http://www.57productions.com), [www.kevinfegan.co.uk](http://www.kevinfegan.co.uk)

Tickets: £6 (£4.50 concessions, £3.00 school students).

**Sunday 19 July.**

**2.15pm-3.00pm and 3.15pm-4.00pm.**

**Rhythm and rhyme – poetry fun for families**

Open sessions for all young poetry lovers and their parents and carers! Join us and join in.

Note: all children must be accompanied by a responsible adult.. Free, no ticket required.

**Sunday 19 July. 7.00pm-9.00pm.**

**The Boyhood of Byron in Southwell, with Ralph Lloyd-Jones**

An illustrated talk on Byron's local connection at Burgage Manor, where he fell in love, engaged in theatricals and narrowly escaped a duel. Ralph Lloyd-Jones is a Nottinghamshire



Lord Byron

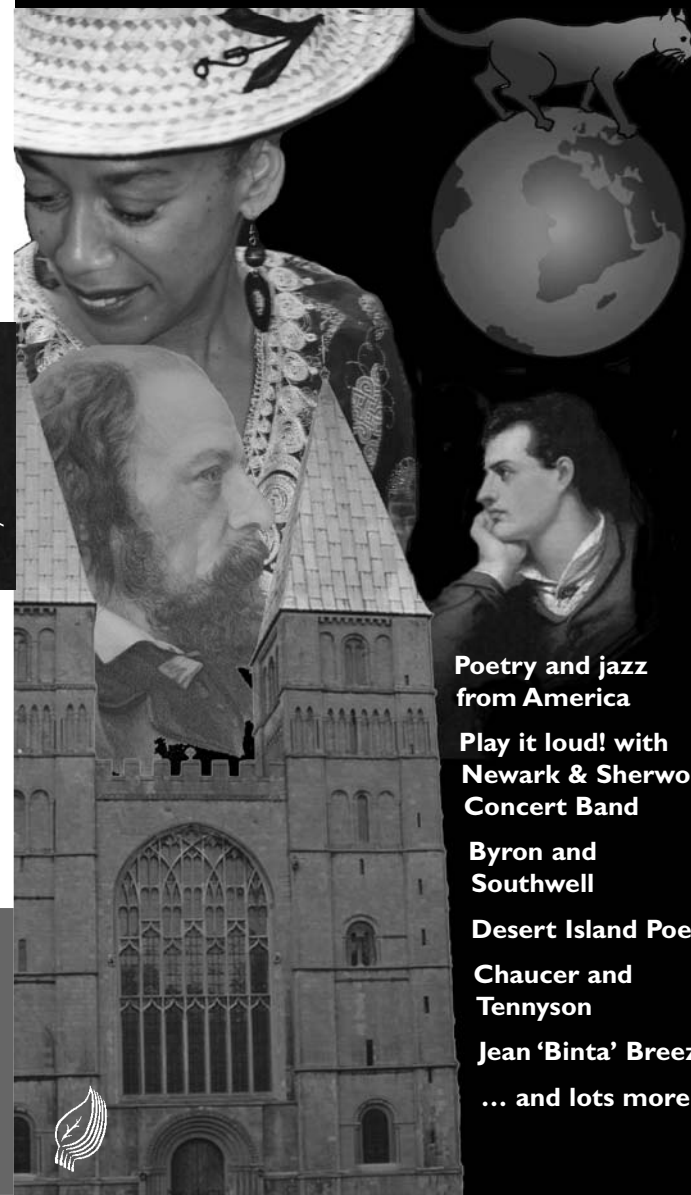
Librarian who lectures and writes on Byron. Though mostly plugging the local connection there will be excursions to Newstead and into Byron's poetry.

Tickets: £3 (including tea and biscuits).



Burgage Manor

*John Adams lies here, of the parish of Southwell,  
A carrier who carried his can to his mouth well;  
He carried so much, and he carried so fast,  
He could carry no more — so was carried at last;  
For the liquor he drank, being too much for one,  
He could not carry off — so he's now carri-on.*



Poetry and jazz from America

Play it loud! with Newark & Sherwood Concert Band

Byron and Southwell

Desert Island Poetry

Chaucer and Tennyson

Jean 'Binta' Breeze

... and lots more



We are pleased to present this year's Southwell Library Poetry Festival. Poetry Festivals have been running in the town since 2000, but have blossomed in their permanent home in Southwell Library, attracting poetry readers from across the County, but also helping build a steady following locally.

Southwell Library has a steady following for all its events. Last year it even stayed open all night with a full programme of activities.

There should be something here for all poetry tastes. Do let us know what you think. In addition to these public events there are some events with community groups. Talk to one of us if you would like to be involved next year.

Tickets for all events are available from Southwell Library. All events take place in the Library or elsewhere in the Bramley Centre.

**Nicola Ellis** (Southwell Library)

**Sheelagh Gallagher** (Nottinghamshire Libraries Reading Development)

**Ross Bradshaw** (Festival Co-ordinator)

## Travel and access information

Southwell Library is on King Street in Southwell. The town is served by the Pathfinder 100 bus. Car parking is by the Co-op on Ropewalk (free for up to three hours) and on Church Street (charges may apply), five and ten minutes from the Library. There is also a small car park behind the Library, accessed from Ropewalk, not King Street.

Access: level floors, wide doors, accessible toilet, induction loop.

## Ticket information/Mailing list

Tickets can be bought over the counter during opening hours or by cheque (payable to Nottinghamshire County Council). If ordering by cheque please include a first class, stamped envelope and your phone number.

For further information, extra copies of this programme and to go on our mailing list please contact: Poetry Festival, Southwell Library, The Bramley Centre, King Street, Southwell NG25 0EN, 01636 812148, [Southwell.library@nottscc.gov.uk](mailto:Southwell.library@nottscc.gov.uk).

## Reading poetry

Interested in taking part in a monthly poetry reading group at Southwell Library? Already in a Nottinghamshire book group and fancy an evening discussing poetry for a change? In either case, please contact Sheelagh Gallagher, Nottinghamshire Libraries' Reading Development Officer on [sheelagh.gallagher@nottscc.gov.uk](mailto:sheelagh.gallagher@nottscc.gov.uk) or 0115 920 2247.



**Saturday 11 July.**

**7.30pm-9.30pm.**

### **The Blue Cat Walks the Earth with Frank Reeve**

The Blue Cat is a courteous, outspoken, well-read, somewhat randy anarchist ready again to lay down one of his lives for what he believes. He's a cross between Top Cat, Puss in Boots, Schrodinger's Cat and the Cat

in a Hat. He's a trickster, a prankster and Frank Reeves has let him out of the bag.

Frank Reeve drove combine-harvesters in the Midwest and worked on the Hudson River docks. He taught in Russia and translated for Robert Frost when he met Nikita Krushov in 1962. He is emeritus professor at Wesleyan University (and the actor Christopher Reeve's father).

John Lake (keyboards) and Phil Paton (saxophone) provide a jazz accompaniment.

[www.smokestack-books.co.uk](http://www.smokestack-books.co.uk)

Tickets: £6.00 (£4.50 concessions).



**Monday 13 July. 10.30am-12.00noon.**

### **Leap-frogging history: Chaucer, Tennyson and the Pre-Raphaelites, with Jenny Swann**

Tennyson and the Pre-Raphs looked back to the Middle Ages for inspiration, giving us the chance to celebrate Tennyson's bicentennial by reading his 'The Lady of Shalott' and extracts from Chaucer's 'Troilus and Criseyde'. The speaker — who runs Candlestick Press — will also discuss the way that the Pre-Raphaelites illustrated Tennyson's poetry and also looked to the Middle Ages for inspiration. Tickets: £3.00 including tea and biscuits.

**Tuesday 14 July. 7.30pm-9.45pm.**

### **Play It Loud! with Newark and Sherwood Concert Band, and volunteer poetry readers**

Stirring English music with some American swing and show music interspersed with the most stirring poetry we can find from around the world.

We could have 30+ in the band, so book early to ensure you can get a seat. [www.newarkandsherwoodconcertband.co.uk](http://www.newarkandsherwoodconcertband.co.uk)  
Tickets: £5.00 (£4.00) including refreshments.

**Thursday 16 July.**

**10.30am-11.00am**

### **Rhythm, Rattle and Roll**

Join in poetry for very young children and their parents/ carers. Free, no ticket required



**Thursday 16 July. 2.00pm-3.30pm.**

### **And the World Turned. A 60 minute spoken recital of poems about love, with The Poetry Trio**

A programme of poetry on the subject of romantic love — from childhood to the golden wedding. Featured poems include two sonnets by Shakespeare and Michael Drayton's "Since there's no Help", other poets include Fleur Adcock, Elizabeth Barrett Browning, Wendy Cope, Edna St. Vincent Millay, Gareth Owen, Sheenagh Pugh, Christina Rossetti, Ken Smith and Anne Stevenson. Tickets: £3.00 (including tea and biscuits).



**Thursday 16 July. 7.30pm.**

### **Desert Island Poems, with John Guille, the Dean of Southwell Minster**

The Very Reverend John Guille joined the Minster in 2007, having been Archdeacon at Winchester Cathedral. He hails from Guernsey, where his family have lived since William did his Conquering. At the Minster he is responsible for the "local parish church" which last year attracted 90,000 visitors in its 900th anniversary year. In this event he will talk about the poems that have meaning for him, before choosing what else he would like to take with him to the desert island of his choice. Tickets: £3 including refreshments.

**Friday 17 July. 2.00pm-3.30pm.**

### **"Birthday Letters" — an open book discussion group, with Sheelagh Gallagher**

A discussion on Ted Hughes' famous *Birthday Letters*, his sensational 1998 best selling collection, his last work, devoted to his thoughts on Sylvia Plath. Tickets: £3.00 (£2 concessions) including tea and biscuits.

**Saturday 18 July. 10.30am-11.45am.**

### **Around the world in twenty poems**

Bring along your favourite poem to read (or have read for you) — describing a journey, foreign parts or, really, just anywhere other than here!

Hosted by Ross Bradshaw, who made the scones.

Tickets: £3.00 (£2.00 concessions) including tea and scones.

## Contacting us

email: [Southwell.library@nottscc.gov.uk](mailto:Southwell.library@nottscc.gov.uk)

phone: 01636 812148

post: Southwell Library, The Bramley Centre, King Street, Southwell NG25 0EN