

# Booking

## VENUES

All Main Readings & Workshops will be held at the **Castle Green Hotel**

Castle Green Hotel, Kendal, LA9 6RG

01539 734000

[www.castlegreen.co.uk](http://www.castlegreen.co.uk)

[reception@castlegreen.co.uk](mailto:reception@castlegreen.co.uk)

The 'Opening Doors' Open Mic on Thursday night will take place at the **Waterside Café**

Kent View, LA9 4DZ

01539 729743

The Friday afternoon Poetry Reading and the children's poetry events on Saturday will be held at **Kendal Library**

Stricklandgate, Kendal, LA9 4PY

01539 713520

## LOCATION & PARKING

- For directions to the Castle Green Hotel [www.castlegreen.co.uk](http://www.castlegreen.co.uk)
- There is parking at the Castle Green Hotel, for parking in and around Kendal see the South Lakeland District Council website for details.

## TICKETS & BOOKING

All tickets to be booked through the **Brewery Arts Centre Box Office**. You may choose to collect your tickets from the Brewery, to print your tickets at home, or to have your name added to a list of ticket holders that will be held at each of the events. Tickets for carers and young people under 18 are complimentary.

[www.breweryarts.co.uk](http://www.breweryarts.co.uk)

01539 725133

**A limited number (35) of Weekend Passes are available at £45.**

*Excluding Workshops, 'Opening Doors' Open Mic and Brewery Poets Afternoon Tea.*

## FURTHER INFORMATION

- For accommodation information [www.golakes.co.uk](http://www.golakes.co.uk)
- For information on things to do and see in and around Kendal [www.exploresouthlakeland.co.uk](http://www.exploresouthlakeland.co.uk)

## ENQUIRIES

- If you have a query and wish to contact the events team, please email [team@kendalpoetryfestival.co.uk](mailto:team@kendalpoetryfestival.co.uk)

# / Kendal Poetry Festival //

**6<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> September 2018**  
**Castle Green Hotel, Kendal**



Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND**



WORDSWORTH TRUST

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Cumbria  
County Council

# Welcome to the third Kendal Poetry Festival

After two sell-out festivals, we have moved to the larger venue of the Castle Green Hotel. This year's festival will take place from the 6th – 9th September 2018. Dove Cottage Young Poets will again be playing a major part, and will be performing alongside our guest readers. Matthew Sowerby made his debut appearance at a Festival Open Mic session last year and is now our new Young Poet in Residence. We have appointed Alistair Burton from Kendal as our Young Musician in Residence.

Kendal's reputation as a welcoming Festival town continues to grow, and we are thrilled to be part of it. We have a wonderful line-up of national and international poets and writers with a packed programme of readings, talks, discussions, workshops, open mics and children's events.

If you've been to our previous festivals, we hope we can tempt you back with this year's programme. If this is your first time, we look forward to meeting you and hope you enjoy the fabulous range of poetry events.

**Kim Moore & Pauline Yarwood**  
Festival Directors

## What's On

### ALL WEEKEND

#### BOOKS

Throughout the Festival, **Waterstones** will be at the Castle Green Hotel, and will be selling books by the Festival Poets. Waterstones in Kendal (located on Stricklandgate) will also have a range of poetry books for sale.

**Wayleave** (a small local independent publisher run by Mike Barlow) will also be at the Castle Green Hotel, and will be selling books by the Wayleave poets.

#### PHOTOGRAPHY

**Martin Copley** is the official Festival Photographer and will be taking pictures throughout all the events. A gallery will be posted online after the festival.

#### BLOG

Dove Cottage Young Poet **Hannah Hodgson** will be Blogger-in-Residence in the run-up to the festival and during the weekend.

#### ACCESSIBILITY

All the events at the Castle Green Hotel, Kendal Library and Waterside Café are fully accessible by wheelchair. The Castle Green Hotel has a hearing loop. There is ample free parking at the hotel.

## What's On

### THURSDAY

#### 7.30 – 9.30pm / 'OPENING DOORS' OPEN MIC NIGHT

**Location:** Waterside Café, Kent View, LA9 4DZ, Kendal

**Tickets:** £5

► Hosted by **Dove Cottage Young Poets** in association with **Kendal Mountain Festival**  
**All ages:** sign up on the night to read your poems which explore the environment, nature, landscape and our place in the world.

### FRIDAY

#### 2.00 – 3.00pm / MAIN READING

**Location:** Kendal Library

**Tickets:** Free, but please book in advance

► Two Cumbrian poets **Polly Atkin** and **Kate Davis** read from their latest publications which explore both the natural landscape, the landscape of the body and the impact of illness and disability.

#### 4.00 – 6.00pm / YOUNG WRITERS WORKSHOP

**Tickets:** Free to young people between the ages of 14-21, but please book in advance

► Poetry workshop for young writers with **Liz Berry**.

#### 4.00 – 5.00pm / AFTERNOON TEA WITH BREWERY POETS

**Tickets:** £6

► Hear from six members of **Kendal's Brewery Poets** – **Jennifer Copley, Elizabeth Hare, Barbara Hickson, Antony Christie, Carole Coates** and **Chris Dodd**. Ticket price includes tea/coffee and a scone with jam and cream.

#### 6.00 – 7.00pm / FESTIVAL LAUNCH

**Tickets:** Free, but please book in advance

► Everyone is welcome to the **Festival Launch**. Come and enjoy a celebratory glass of wine, meet our invited guests and members of Brewery Poets. The Festival will be opened by **Tim Robertson**, Chief Executive of The Anne Frank Trust UK. There will be a reading from our **Young Poet in Residence Matthew Sowerby**, and a performance by our **Young Musician in Residence Alistair Burton**.

#### 7.30 – 9.30pm / MAIN READING

**Tickets:** £8

► **Judy Brown** was a popular Poet in Residence at The Wordsworth Trust in 2013 and makes a welcome return to Cumbria to read her sensuous, intelligent, probing poems. **Kayo Chingonyi's** debut collection *Kumukanda* (Chatto, 2017) is a compelling examination of identity and masculinity. Dove Cottage Young Poets **Sophie Hansen** and **Em Humble** will also be performing during this event.

### SATURDAY

#### 10.00 – 1.00pm / WORKSHOP

**Tickets:** £16.50. Advance booking essential. 16 places max.

#### ► All Your Own Work

Minimal and provocative prompts from **David Harsent** to push poets to locate the poem that already lies at the back of their minds.

# What's On

## 11.00am – 1.00pm / MAIN READING

► **Wayne Holloway-Smith's** first collection *Alarum* (Bloodaxe, 2017) veers between hilarity and tragedy, with real inventiveness and adventure. **Dean Parkin**, described by *The Scotsman* as a 'natural born storyteller' will be reading from his exuberant and energetic work. Dove Cottage Young Poets **Jagoda Gomiak** and **Joseph Williams** will also perform during this event.

## 11.00am – 12.00pm / POETRY RHYME TIME FOR THE UNDER 5'S

**Location:** Kendal Library

**Tickets:** Free, but please book in advance

► A very special session of classic poems and rhyming stories for little ones and their families. Join **Hilda Sheehan** to go where the wild thyme blows, discover rhymes of Shakespeare, Rossetti, Blake, and many more – all brought alive with music and movement for the joy of young poetry lovers!

## 2.00 – 4.00pm / MAIN READING

Tickets: £8

► **Patience Agbabi** is one of those rare poets who effortlessly crosses the boundaries between page and stage. Her latest book *Telling Tales* (Canongate 2014) is a retelling of Chaucer's *The Canterbury Tales* for the 21st Century. **Sasha Dugdale** is a renowned translator and playwright as well as a poet. Her latest collection is *Joy*, published by Carcanet in 2017. Dove Cottage Young Poets **Florence Jones**, **Solomon Russell-Cohen** and **Heather Hughes** will also perform during this event.

## 2.00 – 4.00pm / WORKSHOP

Tickets: £16.50, maximum 16

### ► **Silence And / In the Poem**

**Nikola Madzirov** explores how to find the silence outside graves and city libraries and build it into your writing. How do we touch the silence inside the poem without destroying it?

## 2.30 – 3.15pm / CHILDREN'S POETRY EVENT WITH DEAN PARKIN

**Location:** Kendal Library

**Tickets:** Free, but please book in advance

► A magical afternoon of snappy new poems read by the ever-entertaining poet **Dean Parkin** as he reads from *The Bubble Wrap*, his first book for children. Suitable for children of all ages – from five to ninety five!

## 5.00 – 6.00pm / TALK/DISCUSSION

Tickets: £5

### ► **Making A Mess**

Drawing on the work of poet and performer Douglas Kearney, **Kayo Chingonyi** will look at ways that contemporary poets from the UK and US bring a sense of spontaneity in their use of poetic form by seeking out working methods that allow for failure, mess and the happy accidents that occur in the moment.

## 7.00 – 9.00pm / MAIN READING

Tickets: £8

► **Pascale Petit's** fierce and distinctive poetry explores the impact of childhood abuse and violence. Her latest collection is *Mama Amazonica* (Bloodaxe, 2017). **Nikolai Madzirov** is an acclaimed Macedonian poet whose poetry is haunting and mysterious,

# What's On

exploring questions of belonging, shelter and homelessness. *Remnants of Another Age* was published by Bloodaxe in 2013. Dove Cottage Young Poets **Ruby Evans** and **Hannah Hodgson** will also perform during this event.

## 9.30 – 11.30pm / LATE NIGHT OPEN MIC

Tickets: £5

► Hosted by **Ann Grant**. Sign up on the door for up to three minutes on the mic. Names will be drawn from a hat to add extra excitement to the running order. In between groups of five poets the audience will have the chance to take part in 'Stick the tale on the poet' 'Poetry-oke' or 'Play your poets right'.

## SUNDAY

## 10.00am – 1.00pm / WORKSHOP

Tickets: £16.50, 16 places max.

### ► **The Sound of the Sestina**

**Patience Agbabi** will explain how to master the inner mechanics of the form through short, fun exercises. You will write a first draft of a sestina and share the creative process. Beginners and experienced poets are welcome.

## 11.00am – 1.00pm / MAIN READING

Tickets: £8

► **Claudine Toutoungi's** first collection *Smoothie*, published by Carcanet in 2017, is both poignant and funny, written with a dry wit and a sharp eye. **David Constantine** is one of the UK's best loved poets. His work looks outwards to the European poetic tradition with his own unique passionate lyricism. Dove Cottage Young Poets **Rachael Ensoll** and **Natasha Davenport** will also perform during this event.

## 1.30 – 2.30pm / TALK/DISCUSSION

Tickets: £5

### ► **The Poetic Estate**

The Russian poet Alexander Pushkin is central to Russian literary experience and history. Poet and translator **Sasha Dugdale** will reflect on the literary heritage industry in Russia and the UK and how nationalism and politics affect our sense of poetry and place.

## 3.00 – 4.00pm / READING FROM 'ONE FOR THE ROAD' ANTHOLOGY

Tickets: £5

► Join **Stuart Maconie** and **Peter Sansom** on an ideal poetry pub crawl, celebrating the British pub and everything that happens there. They will select some of their favourite poems from the anthology to share during this event.

## 4.30 – 6.30pm / MAIN READING

Tickets: £8

► **Liz Berry's** first full-length collection *Black Country* was described in *The Guardian* as a 'sooty, soaring hymn to her native West Midlands'. She will also read poems from a new pamphlet which explores experiences of motherhood. **David Harsent** has published eleven collections of poetry. He has collaborated extensively with the composer Harrison Birtwhistle, and the influence of music can be heard throughout his work. Dove Cottage Young Poets **Jaz Pirie** and **James Siodlak** will perform alongside Young Poet in Residence **Matthew Sowerby** and Young Musician in Residence **Alistair Burton**.



# Poet Biographies

► **Patience Agbabi** is one of the UK's foremost poets. She has spent over 20 years celebrating the written and spoken word. She was shortlisted for the Ted Hughes Prize for New Work in Poetry 2014 and Wales Book of the Year 2015.

► **Polly Atkin** lives in Cumbria. Her first poetry collection, *Basic Nest Architecture*, was published by Seren in 2017. She is a Penguin Random House WriteNow mentee for a forthcoming non-fiction book reflecting on place, belonging and living with chronic illness.

► **Liz Berry's** first book of poems, *Black Country* (Chatto & Windus, 2014) was a Poetry Book Society Recommendation, received a Somerset Maugham Award, won the Geoffrey Faber Memorial Award and the Forward Prize for Best First Collection 2014.

► **Judy Brown's** second collection *Crowd Sensations* (Seren, 2016) was shortlisted for the Ledbury Forte second collection prize and is a Poetry Book Society Recommendation. Her first collection *Loudness* (Seren, 2011) was shortlisted for both the Forward and Aldeburgh first collection prizes.

► **Kayo Chingonyi's** first full-length collection, *Kumukanda* (Chatto & Windus, 2017) was a Guardian and Telegraph book of the year and won the 2018 Dylan Thomas Prize. He was shortlisted for the Jhalak Prize, The Costa Poetry Prize, and The Ted Hughes Award. He is currently shortlisted for the Seamus Heaney Centre First Collection Poetry Prize.

► **David Constantine** was born 1944 in Salford, Lancashire and spent 30 years as a university teacher of German language and literature. He has published a dozen volumes of poetry, most recently *Elder* (Bloodaxe, 2014). His new and greatly enlarged *Selected Poetry of Hölderlin* will be published by Bloodaxe later this year.

► **Sasha Dugdale** has published four collections of poetry, the most recent of which is *Joy* (Carcenet, 2017). She won the Forward Prize for Best Single Poem in 2016 and has been described by the Guardian as 'one of the most original poets of her generation'.

► **David Harsent** is a poet and librettist. He has published eleven volumes of poetry, most recently *Salt* (Faber, 2017). An oratorio – *The Judas Passion* (music by Sally Beamish) had its world premiere in London in August 2017. He is currently Professor of Creative Writing at University of Roehampton.

# Poet Biographies

► **Wayne Holloway-Smith** received his PhD in English & Creative Writing from Brunel University in 2015. His debut collection of poetry, *Alarum*, (Bloodaxe, 2017) was shortlisted for the Roehampton Poetry Prize. He won the Poetry Society's Geoffrey Dearmer Prize in the same year. He is currently shortlisted for the Seamus Heaney Centre First Collection Poetry Prize.

► **Stuart Maconie** is a TV and radio presenter, journalist, columnist and best-selling author. His book *Adventures on the High Teas* was the top selling travel book of 2009 and *Pies and Prejudice* was one of 2008's top selling paperbacks.

► **Nikola Madzirov** was born in 1973 in Strumica, R.Macedonia, in a family of war refugees from the Balkan Wars. His book in English *Remnants of Another Age*, was published in UK by Bloodaxe Books in 2013. He is one of the most outstanding figures of the post-Soviet generation and his poetry is translated into more than thirty languages.

► **Dean Parkin** is a full-time freelance poet, delivering workshops and residencies for people of all ages. He has published four pamphlets, a full collection and most recently a book of poems for children – *The Bubble Wrap & Other Poems* (Small Donkey, 2017).

► **Pascale Petit** has published seven poetry collections, four of which have been shortlisted for the T.S Eliot Prize. Her most recent is *Mama Amazonica* (Bloodaxe, 2017), which is a PBS choice and won the RSL Ondaatje Prize. She is widely travelled in the Peruvian and Venezuelan Amazon, China, Kazakhstan, Nepal and Mexico and this informs much of her work.

► **Peter Sansom** has published five collections of poetry. His most recent is *Careful What You Wish For* (Carcenet, 2015). He is the director of The Poetry Business where he edits *The North* magazine and *Smith/Doorstop* books and is the publisher of *One For The Road*.

► **Hilda Sheehan's** debut collection is *The Night my Sister Went to Hollywood* (Cultured Llama Press, 2013). Hilda's work is subversive, engaging with both surreal and absurdist traditions. Her most recent pamphlet is *The God Baby* (Dancing Girl Press, 2017).

► **Claudine Toutoungi's** is a poet and dramatist. Her debut poetry collection *Smoothie* was published by Carcanet in 2017. As a dramatist for Radio 4 her credits include *Deliverers*, *Home Front*, *The Inheritors* and a dramatization of Delphine de Vigan's psychological thriller *Based On A True Story*.