

**Wakefield
LitFest**

Event Schedule

Join in with our free workshops tailored for 14-25 year olds who love all things literature!

Whatever your interests and experience, there's something for everyone, take a look at the events we are running this Autumn.

September

From 25th Podcast Call Out

Who inspires you? This podcast aims to share the stories of people throughout history who've made us stop and think: "This is why I want to do this."

The stories of the female scientists who've made amazing discoveries despite being barred from academic institutions, the protesters who marched in the peasants revolt of 1381, the queer people who created homes for themselves when their very existence was against the law, and the artists who found ways to speak when their voices were unheard. Here are the stories of the people who inspire us.

From 25th Book Review Call Out

Share "must reads" with other avid readers and get a ton of recommendations in return! During October Wakefield LitFest are featuring a book review a day for and by young people aged 14 - 25.

We need readers to video themselves introducing their book of choice and the author, what they thought about it and why other readers would enjoy it - if film isn't your thing you can write it instead.

Send your videos or written reviews to info@yew-tree.com ASAP!

October



Saturday 3rd 2.00pm Poetry Workshop with Vicky Foster

Join poet Vicky Foster in this opportunity to develop your skills in creating poetry for performance. Her work and interviews have been broadcast on multiple national radio stations and her poem for the Commonwealth Games 2018 was part of the BBC's national radio coverage.

She has delivered workshops for all kinds of organisations, delivers creative writing workshops for First Story as a writer-in-residence, and is currently working on commissions for Back To Ours and Ships in the Sky, as well as writing a novel, and planning a tour of Bathwater.



Tuesday 6th 7.30pm Poetry workshop with Vicky Morris Hive

Interested in poetry? Whether your interest is performing poetry or getting published on the page (or both!), join poet, Vicky Morris for a jam-packed 2-hour practical workshop.

Vicky will get you writing, and thinking about how you can make your poems the best they can be. Expect a fast paced, fun and supportive workshop for all experience levels.

Vicky Morris is a widely published poet and creative educator based in Sheffield. She is a recent Arvon/Jerwood mentee and won a Northern Writers Award in 2014. In 2016 she founded Hive Young Writers project, where she's mentored many emerging writers including winners of accolades such as the New Poets and Foyle Young Poet of the Year. In 2019 she was awarded The Sarah Nulty Award for Creativity for her impact in the region.

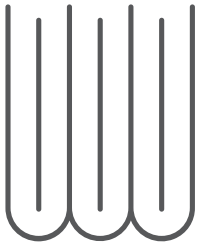


Monday 5th 7.30pm Journalism Workshop with Bridget Hamilton

Join writer, Bridget Hamilton, in this opportunity to develop your skills in journalistic writing.

Bridget Hamilton is a narrative non-fiction writer and radio producer. She currently works as a Creative Producer for New Writing North's young writers' programme, and has produced and written audio content for brands such as The Independent and BBC Radio Three.

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**Wednesday 7th
7.30pm
Writing Your First
Five-Minute Stand-Up
Set with Siân Docksey**

Have you been told you're funny and should do comedy, or are you a writer-performer who's always wanted to give stand-up a go?

Whether you're a seasoned performer or you've never set foot onstage, this session will guide you through everything you need to put your own sharp, unique five-minute stand-up comedy set together. The comedy circuit is slowly getting back up on its feet, so now is an excellent moment to perfect a killer five.

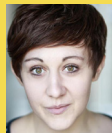
This workshop walks you through:

- What makes a great five-minute stand-up set
- Joke structure and comedy writing techniques
- Connecting with an audience throughout your set.

All participants will be invited to:

- Identify your signature material
- Explore your performance style

BBC New Comedy Award nominee 2019 Siân Docksey is confidently the UK's number one Welsh-Armenian queer comedian from Belgium, and ready to fight* anyone for the title (*sternly email.) As heard on BBC Radio 4 and featured in The Telegraph's Funniest One-Liners of the Edinburgh Fringe 2017.



**Saturday 10th
2.00pm
Playwriting Workshop
with Charlotte Josephine**

Join award-winning writer and actor Charlotte Josephine as they explore moving past self-doubt and beginning to write for theatre.

What does writing for theatre even mean? How do I get started? What if my ideas are rubbish? Charlotte will lead us through some writing exercises and share tips and tricks on self-confidence as an artist. Expect short sharp writing exercises and discussion on beginning to make work. Just bring yourself and something to write on.



**Saturday 10th
4.30pm - 6pm
Performance Workshop
with Sarah Osborne**

In the studio of Theatre Royal, Wakefield, director Sarah Osborne will facilitate a workshop to develop the skills of any writer wanting to perform their work. Key elements of the workshop will be improving confidence, getting the most out of your voice, and how to engage an audience.

Open to young people of all levels of experience and perfect for anyone wanting to perform at Wakefield LitFest's open mic nights or any hopeful competitors in our myths and legends story writing competition. This workshop is sponsored by NODA North East.

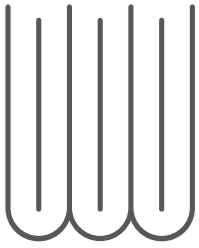


**Tuesday 13th
7.00pm
Exploring the
Fundamental Elements
of Songwriting with
Gilmore & Roberts**

Award-winning contemporary folk duo Gilmore & Roberts explore the fundamental elements of songwriting.

Using their own work to highlight different options in areas such as subject matter, lyrics and rhyme, structure, harmony, melody, mood and arrangement, they will provide you with a toolkit of tips and techniques to help you construct your own songs.

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**Wednesday 14th
7.00pm
Storytelling Workshop
with Nik Perring**

For as long as we've been able to tell stories, humans have used myth as a way of making sense of the conflicts their cultures have experienced. Join Nik Perring (Not So Perfect, Freaks!) to create your own myths.

In this creative writing workshop for all abilities and experience, we'll explore what myths are and how they work, and why they stay with us for so long. Nik will show you how to create your own brilliant ideas and turn them into stories and poems - with plenty of tips, tricks, and inspiration from someone who's been in the industry for over fifteen years. It's time for new giants and kings, tricksters and goddesses.

Nik Perring is the author of 4 books for adults and 1 children's book. His short stories have been published all over the world, won prizes, performed on stage, and read on the radio. He's Writer in Residence for Sheffield Libraries' Year of Reading and has over 15 years' experience teaching writing to all ages.



**Monday 26th
7.30pm
Music and Mirth Open
Mic Night with Oliver
Asadi & Sian Docksey**

Present your musical and comedy talents to the ZOOM world. Featuring musical headliner Oliver Asadi and hosted by comedian Sian Docksey, you can watch these established artists perform and -if inspired- share your own original songs and stand-up in an entirely supportive atmosphere.

Register as an audience member or as a performer - either way an evening of entertainment is guaranteed!



**Wednesday 28th
7.30pm
Scripts on the (Small)
Screen with Ben Grainer**

Scripts on the (Small) Screen; a chance for emerging writers to present their monologues and duologues to a ZOOM audience hosted by the talented Ben Grainer.

Ben has honed his own theatrical talents with 'Mortal Fools' and is now a member of the National Youth Theatre. Attend as a performer or an audience member - either way you'll be inspired!



**Friday 30th
7.30pm
Young Poets Takeover
with The Poetry Society**

Poetry Society award-winning poets Maiya Dambawinna, Laura Potts and Lizzi Hawkin will perform and support local talent through this inspirational poetry takeover Open Mic Night.

Our hosts have all been in the position of being a young poet and understand the nerves and vulnerabilities of sharing work...but they have all braved that first step and become successful poets supported the Poetry Society. Book a place to perform your own work or watch the work of established and emerging writers.

To get involved

**Sign up to take part by
visiting our social media**

@WakeyLitfest
 @wakefieldlitfest
 @wakeyitfest