

# Programme Listing

## Friday 23rd April

**4pm – 6pm**  
Philippa Gregory  
*Alnwick Castle*

## Monday 26th April

Eoin McNamee  
*Schools Event*

## Tuesday 27th April

Debi Gliori  
*Schools Event*

### 7.30pm – 9pm

Book Group Forum  
Laura Fish/ Kachi Ozumba  
*White Room QH*

## Wednesday 28th April

Kjartan Poskitt  
*Schools Event*

### 10am – 4pm

SPRUNG!  
A Writing Day for All,  
Gillian Allnutt  
*Shepherds Dene*

### 4.30pm – 6.30pm

Apples and Snakes  
Performance Poetry Workshop  
*White Room QH*

### 7pm – 8.20pm

A L Kennedy  
One Woman Show 'Words'  
*Theatre QH*

### 8.30pm – 10.30pm

Poetry Slam  
*Café QH*

## Thursday 29th April

Literacy Day  
*Schools event*

### 10am – 12pm

A L Kennedy Masterclass  
*Forum Cinema*

### 12.30pm – 1.30pm

Jodi Picoult  
*Theatre QH*

### 4.30pm – 5.30pm

Read Regional Poetry Event  
*White Room QH*

### 6pm – 7pm

Ruth Padel  
*Theatre QH*

### 8pm

Wendy Cope  
*Theatre QH*

## Friday 30th April

### 10.30am – 11.45am

Daniel Stevens/Nick Fisher  
River Cottage Hand Books  
*White Room QH*

### 2pm – 3pm

Tamasin Day-Lewis  
*Theatre QH*

### 6pm – 7.15pm

Too Much  
Information  
*White Room QH*

### 8pm

An evening with  
Shirley Williams  
*Theatre QH*

## Saturday 1st May

### 10.30am – 11.15am

'My Superhero Pet'  
Short Story spectacular  
*White Room QH*

### 11.30am – 12.30pm

Storytelling with Chris Bostok  
*Gallery 2 QH*

### 12pm – 1pm

North East Literary History  
*White Room QH*

### 2pm – 5pm

Stephen Anderton /  
Catherine Horwood  
*Garden Station, Langley*

### 2pm – 3pm

Martin Wainwright /  
Ian Thompson  
*White Room QH*

### 2pm – 3pm

Janey Louise Jones  
Princess Poppy  
*Library QH*

### 2.30pm – 6.30pm

A Twilight Spectacular  
*Forum Cinema, Hexham*

### 3pm – 4pm

Barbara Trapido /  
Susan Fletcher  
*Theatre QH*

### 3.30pm – 4.30pm

Andrew Cope  
Spy Dog  
*Library QH*

### 3.30pm – 4.30pm

Storytelling with  
Chris Bostok  
*Gallery 1 QH*

### 4.30pm – 6pm

Simon Hoggart  
*Theatre QH*

### 6.30pm – 8pm

Wine Tasting  
*White Room QH*

### 8pm

Margaret Drabble  
*Theatre QH*

## Sunday 2nd May

### 11am – 12pm

P. D. James interviewed  
by Val McDermid  
*Theatre QH*

### 12.30pm – 2pm

Laura Wilson Master Class  
*White Room QH*

### 1pm – 3.30pm

Festival Read event  
'Brighton Rock' Book & Film  
*Forum Cinema*

### 2pm – 3pm

Gareth P Jones  
*Library QH*

### 4pm – 5pm

Ann Cleeves / Martyn Waites  
*White Room QH*

### 5.30pm – 6.45pm

Emerald Noir  
*White Room QH*

### 7.30pm

Val McDermid /  
Professor Sue Black  
*Theatre QH*



hexham  
book festival

In partnership with Queen's Hall Arts

23rd April – 2nd May 2010



What links books about food, wine, landscape, crime, history, politics and poetry? They're all on offer at the fifth **Hexham Book Festival** featuring an outstanding line-up of award-winning writers, leading thinkers, controversial speakers and bon viveurs. Join historian and writer Philippa Gregory at Alnwick Castle on murder and betrayal in fifteenth century England; quaff a hundred wines with Guardian columnist Simon Hoggart; discover why writers love landscape with Margaret Drabble; expect wise words from veteran politician Shirley Williams and find a cure for love with poet Wendy Cope.

Get cracking with our **Big Festival Read** Graham Green's 'Brighton Rock', then join readers and writers after seeing the film at the Forum Cinema. New for 2010, we welcome Val McDermid as Sunday's guest director.

Hexham Book Festival is supported by;

Arts Council England, Catherine Cookson Charitable Trust, Ernest Cook Trust, Greggs Trust, Hadrian Trust, Hexham Courant, Northern Rock Foundation, Northumbria University, Newcastle University, Queen's Hall Arts, Red Marine Ltd, The Community Foundation.

Everyone Welcome

Queen's Hall welcomes visitors with disabilities and aims to ensure that your visit is safe and enjoyable. If you require help, please contact Queen's Hall in advance. Companions of wheelchair users may attend events free of charge. Guide dogs are welcome in all areas of the building.

Main Venue Queen's Hall, Hexham NE46 3LS

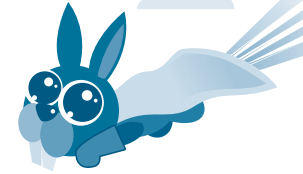
## 'My Superhero Pet' Short Story Competition

Calling all young authors aged 9-13!

Write a short story about your Superhero pet and have the chance of hearing it read out by a professional actor on Saturday 1st May. Meet our judge Andy Cope, prizes include £50 worth of book tokens.

Send or email entries of up to 1000 words entitled 'My Superhero Pet'. Remember to put your name, address and age on your entry!

*Closing date is Thursday 1st April*



## Gallery Exhibition: Ralph Steadman Drawings for PsychoGeography



An exhibition of original artwork by world famous illustrator Ralph Steadman, who best known for his work with American author Hunter S. Thompson.

A collection of works used to illustrate the 'PsychoGeography' articles written by Will Self for the Independent.

*Exhibition runs from 24th April – 22nd May*

**JOIN THE FESTIVAL READ (SEE 2ND MAY);  
GRAHAM GREEN'S BRIGHTON  
ROCK – SPECIAL PRICE FROM  
COGITO BOOKS, HEXHAM.**

Friday 23rd April

## 4pm – 6pm Philippa Gregory at Alnwick Castle: The White Queen



Join award-winning writer and historian Philippa Gregory in the atmospheric setting of the Guest Hall of Alnwick Castle. Her new book recreates the bloody and deceitful world of the War of the Roses with the ambitious and beautiful heroine Elizabeth Woodville at its heart.

**Alnwick Castle F**  
**£6.00** includes refreshments (tea/coffee / orange juice)

Directions from [www.alnwickcastle.co.uk](http://www.alnwickcastle.co.uk)  
Discounted admission available to The Garden and Castle earlier on the day (with event ticket – see our website for more details).

Key

- |                                 |                      |                       |                 |                  |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| <b>K</b> Kids                   | <b>I</b> Independent | <b>D</b> Drama        | <b>S</b> Screen | <b>F</b> Fiction |
| <b>FH</b> Food and horticulture | <b>M</b> Masterclass | <b>NF</b> Non-fiction | <b>P</b> Poetry |                  |

Monday 26th April

## Eoin McNamee

Eoin will be talking about what inspires him to write and reading from his book 'The Ring of Five', a gripping fantasy story about Wilsons Spy Academy.

10.30am and 1.30pm **KIDS**  
Schools Event

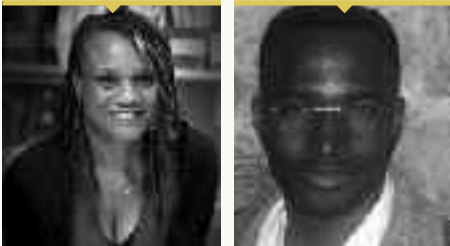
Tuesday 27th April

## Debi Gliori

Debi's book 'Witchy babies' imagines a spooky upside-down world where all is not as it seems. A fun event with readings and drawings.

10.30am and 1.30pm **KIDS**  
Schools Event

## 7.30pm Book Group Forum: Laura Fish – 'Strange Music' and Kachi Ozumba – 'Shadow of a Smile'



Join book groups from across the North East and meet the authors. Kachi Ozumba's hero is a Nigerian student imprisoned for a crime he didn't commit and Laura Fish's novel, set in 1830's West Indies, follows three very different women as they try to reconcile past and present.

White Room QH  
Free Event

Wednesday 28th April

## 10am – 4pm SPRUNG! A Writing Day for All at Shepherds Dene Led by Gillian Allnutt



Shepherds Dene is an arts and crafts retreat house set in extensive gardens in the beautiful Tyne Valley. We will use the house and grounds as inspiration and a starting point for the writing day. There will be indoor and outdoor spaces to work in.

£30.00 includes coffee, home-made lunch, tea & biscuits. Directions from [www.shepherdsdene.co.uk](http://www.shepherdsdene.co.uk)

**M**

## Kjartan Poskitt; The Murderous Maths Organisation

Author Kjartan Poskitt demonstrates curiosities from his Murderous Maths books. An event which is sure to get both the students and their teachers thinking!

10.30am and 1.30pm. Schools Event  
Sponsored by Red Marine and  
School of Mathematics & Statistics,  
Newcastle University

**KIDS**

## 4.30pm Apples & Snakes presents: At The Mike: Performance Poetry Workshop

Are you a poet looking to hone your performance skills, limbering up to take part in the Hexham Book Fest Slam, or simply want to share your work in an informal environment? Then this practical workshop, led by performance poet and winner of 2008 Hexham Book Fest Slam Ross Sutherland, is for you!

White Room QH  
£8.00 (places limited),  
£10.00 including Poetry Slam

**P**



## 7pm A.L.Kennedy One Woman Show 'Words'



Prize winning author A.L.Kennedy was raised in the Moray Firth by dolphins and spent some time as a "spoon dancer" before discovering that she could earn a living by writing down fibs.

This is her new show – WORDS. Without words we couldn't tell anyone "I love you", "Your leg is on fire." Expect the unexpected.

Theatre QH  
£6.00

**JOIN THE FESTIVAL READ** (SEE 2ND MAY);  
**GRAHAM GREEN'S BRIGHTON ROCK – SPECIAL  
PRICE FROM COGITO BOOKS, HEXHAM.**

## 8.30pm Poetry Slam



### The Hyperlexic Poetry Slam!

Poets take on poets in word to word combat. Fancy your chances? You'll need at least three poems under three minutes long. Email the festival in advance, some places may be available on the night. Compered by Radio 4's Saturday Live Poet in Residence, the comic poet Kate Fox.

Cafe QH **P**  
£4.00

Thursday 29th April >>

## 10am A.L.Kennedy: Masterclass

Join the award-winning writer A. L. Kennedy (spoon-dancer and casual liar) as she explores the challenges and dilemmas of writing prose. Not for the faint-hearted!

Forum Cinema **M**  
£9.00 (limited numbers)  
Sponsored by Northumbria University

>> Thursday 29th April

### 10.30am Literacy Day schools event

Two well known authors discuss the inspiration behind their characters and work with children to produce their own stories. Supported by Hadrian Trust, Greggs Trust, The Ernest Cook Trust, Catherine Cookson Charitable Trust and Community Foundation. For more information email [info@hexhambookfestival.co.uk](mailto:info@hexhambookfestival.co.uk)

White room QH  
Schools event

### 12.30pm Jodi Picoult: House Rules



Jacob Hunt is a teenager: brilliant at maths, hopeless at reading social cues. And he has Asperger's. When his tutor is found dead, all the hallmark behaviours of Jacob's syndrome start looking a lot like guilt to the police. A tense exploration of suspicion and misunderstanding.

Theatre QH F  
£4.00

### 4.30pm Read Regional Poetry Event

#### Read Regional Preview

Join New Writing North for a preview of the 2010 Read Regional campaign. Find out which eight books by local authors we'll be promoting this summer and meet the participating writers. With readings from three wonderful North East poets; Carolyn Jess Cooke, Cynthia Fuller and Bob Beagrie. [www.readregional.com](http://www.readregional.com)

White Room QH P  
Free event

### 6pm Ruth Padel



'Where the Serpent Lives' is poet Ruth Padel's first novel. Set in Devon, India and London it is a beautiful evocation of the natural world and our relationship to it. Ruth will be talking to Neil Astley of Bloodaxe books about her journey from poet to novelist.

Theatre QH F  
£6.00

### 8pm Wendy Cope 'Two Cures for Love'



Don't see him. Don't phone or write a letter. The easy way: get to know him better.

Wendy Cope's wry poetry packs an emotional punch. 'Two Cures for Love' looks back at the last 25 years of her writing with lines that lodge in your heart and your head.

Theatre QH P  
£9.00

Friday 30th April

### 'A side order of words' Food at the Festival

#### 10.30am Daniel Stevens and Nick Fisher, River Cottage Hand Books



Come and hear about the alchemy of bread-making and listen to some fisherman's tales about the one that got away (and the one that made the plate). 'The River Cottage' food experts will be talking to Andrew Wilkinson founder of Gilchesters Organics.

White Room QH FH  
£7.00

#### Food at the Festival Special Ticket Offer

Enjoy both morning and afternoon food events with a 2 course lunch and a glass of wine at Bouchon Bistro (winner of the F-Word's Best French Bistro 2009) for just £25.



JOIN THE FESTIVAL READ (SEE 2ND MAY);  
GRAHAM GREEN'S BRIGHTON ROCK - SPECIAL  
PRICE FROM COGITO BOOKS, HEXHAM.

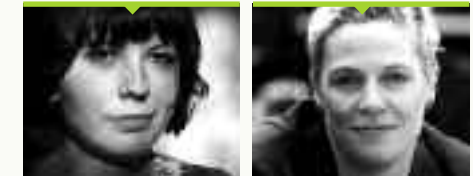
### 2pm Tamasin Day-Lewis Supper for a Song



Even in tough times we still always crave good food. In this book the inspirational food writer, Tamasin Day-Lewis shows that eating really well is a pleasure that never has to be compromised no matter what your budget.

Theatre QH FH  
£7.00

### 6pm Too Much Information



Poet Jo Bell and novelist Jenn Ashworth will be reading cynical, blackly comic tales of love, stalking and sex in their sharp, spoken word show. Come and join them for an evening of marmite, doilies and love stories for the broken-hearted brought to you from the comfort of their portable, inflatable living room.

White Room QH P F  
£3.50

>> Friday 30th April

## 8pm An evening with Shirley Williams



After a lifetime in national and international politics who better to spill the secrets of the corridors of power than Baroness Shirley Williams? Expect some fascinating insights into the workings of the political machine as we edge into the election.

Theatre QH NF  
£12.00 (£10.00 concession)

Saturday 1st May

## 10.30am 'My Superhero Pet' Short Story spectacular

Andy Cope (author of the 'Spy-Dog' series) will be handing out the prizes and acclaimed actor Judi Earl will read out the winning short stories in our 'terr-woof-ic' competition!

White Room QH  
Free KIDS



## 11.30am Storytelling



World famous storyteller Chris Bostok will be entertaining children and their parents with his ancient and contemporary stories.

Gallery 2 QH  
£2.50 per child  
(parents free)  
3-6 yrs

KIDS

## 12pm North East Literary History

Why is the North East such an inspirational place for writers to live and work?

Join writers **Ellen Phethean**, **Andy Croft** and **Michael Chaplin** as they discuss the personal essays that they have contributed to a new book about and by the writers, editors and critics who have shaped the literary history of our region, with editor **Stevie Ronnie**. Presented by New Writing North.

White Room QH NF  
Free

## 2pm The Garden Station, Langley Stephen Anderton and Catherine Horwood in conversation with Marian Foster of BBC Newcastle's Garden Mania.



Credit: Charlie Hopkinson

The late plantsman and writer Christopher Lloyd was always controversial and influential. Join his biographer, Stephen Anderton, as he reveals what made him tick.

From medieval women weeders to leading contemporary designers, women have always been at the forefront of horticulture. Catherine Horwood's 'Gardening Women' traces this often hidden history.

Directions from [www.thegardenstation.co.uk](http://www.thegardenstation.co.uk)  
£10.00 includes tea & cake FR

## 2pm Martin Wainwright & Ian Thompson



Credit: Emine Thompson

Journalist and film director Sheilagh Matheson will be quizzing Guardian columnist Martin Wainwright about the transformation of the North from the Victorian horror of dark Satanic mills to England's modern day California, and talking to Ian Thompson about his book of the Lakes, one of the best loved, most walked-upon and written about landscapes in England.

White Room QH | £6.00 NF

JOIN THE FESTIVAL READ (SEE 2ND MAY);  
GRAHAM GREEN'S BRIGHTON ROCK - SPECIAL  
PRICE FROM COGITO BOOKS, HEXHAM.

## 2pm Janey Louise Jones: Princess Poppy



Credit: Chris Robson

Janey Louise Jones is the author of the very popular Princess Poppy books. Come and hear her talk about Princess Poppy and how she transforms real life into these popular books for the under 8s.

Come dressed up as a Princess – or a Prince!  
Library QH | Kids 3+yrs | £3.00 (parents free)

## 2.30pm – 6.30pm A Twilight Spectacular in association with Seven Stories



Calling all Twi-hards and Twilighters. Lose yourself in Stephenie Meyers' smash-hit vampire phenomenon at the Forum Cinema. Test your knowledge in the 'Twilight Zone' quiz and enjoy a gala screening of New Moon just for the fans.

Come dressed to kill...

Forum Cinema, Hexham  
£5.50 includes quiz and film.

Tickets from  
[www.forumhexham.co.uk](http://www.forumhexham.co.uk)  
or 01434 601144  
Strictly 12+

sevenstories  
the centre for children's books

>> Saturday 1st May

### 3pm Barbara Trapido and Susan Fletcher



Two Whitbread prize winners talk about their new books. Much-loved novelist Barbara Trapido's 'Sex and Stravinsky' explores a family in crisis whilst Susan Fletcher's third novel 'Corrag' blends historical facts with gripping fiction from Northumberland to the Scottish highlands. Chaired by Claire Malcolm of New Writing North.

Theatre QH **F**  
£6.00

### 3.30pm Andrew Cope (and possibly spy dog Lara) 'Spy Dog' the next mission...



Andrew Cope, author of the best selling children's series 'Spy Dog' and 'Spy Pups' talks to children with humour and energy about his writing – you may even be able to persuade him to talk about Lara's next top secret mission!

Library QH **KIDS**  
£3.00 (parents free)  
Kids ages 7+

Andy is also judging our short story competition, entries to be in for **1st April**. For more info, see back of programme.

### 3.30pm More storytelling with Chris Bostok

More from world famous storyteller Chris Bostok, who will be entertaining children and their parents with his ancient and contemporary stories.

Gallery 1 | £2.50 (parents free) | Kids 3-6yrs

### 4.30pm Simon Hoggart – Potty Politicians, Loony Letters and Wonderful Wines



Come and join witty parliamentary sketch writer and wine lover Simon Hoggart as he shares more political gossip and sips his way through a hundred of his favourite wines. Are you an adventurous, discerning wine drinker in search of some inspiration? Then his new book 'Life's too short to drink bad wine' is for you!

Theatre QH **NF**  
£9.00 or ticket price with  
wine tasting £20.00 (see below)

### 6.30pm Wine Tasting

Taste a selection of some of the best vintages from 'Life's too short to drink bad wine' along with Simon Hoggart and Andy Taylor from 'Liberty Wines' – a subtle blend of grapes and literature, best drunk young.

White Room QH  
£12.00 (limited numbers, book early)  
or ticket price with Simon's previous event £20.00



### 8pm Margaret Drabble – A Writer's Britain



Credit: Ruth Corney

How has the British landscape shaped our literature? Margaret Drabble, one of this country's leading contemporary writers, explores in this beautiful anthology the deep love of place that so many authors exhibit through their words and how we, as readers, are influenced by it.

Theatre QH **NF**  
£7.00

Sunday 2nd May

### 'Who Dunit?'



Crime Writer Val McDermid is today's Guest Director.

*"Writers love to play god. That's why I was so delighted to be invited to be guest director for the day. Writers are also readers, and we get very passionate about our favourites. I hope you enjoy this chance to share some of my personal pleasures in the crime world."*

Val McDermid

### 11am P.D. James interviewed by Val McDermid



Baroness James is a living legend. Ninety this year, the creator of Adam Dalgliesh and Cordelia Gray, is still writing at the peak of her powers. When the BBC invited her to edit Radio 4's Today programme, they discovered she is sharp enough to put the Director General on the back foot. This is guaranteed to be a highlight of the festival.

Theatre QH **F**  
£8.00

**JOIN THE FESTIVAL READ (SEE 2ND MAY);  
GRAHAM GREEN'S BRIGHTON ROCK – SPECIAL  
PRICE FROM COGITO BOOKS, HEXHAM.**

>> Sunday 2nd May

**JOIN THE FESTIVAL READ** (SEE 2ND MAY);  
**GRAHAM GREEN'S BRIGHTON ROCK – SPECIAL PRICE FROM COGITO BOOKS, HEXHAM.**

### 12.30pm Laura Wilson, A Master Class in Crime Writing



A unique opportunity for aspiring writers to experience a master class in crime writing from one of its leading proponents. Laura Wilson's eight novels are set in the recent past, with Stratton's War winning the CWA Ellis Peters Historical Crime Award. Laura is the crime fiction critic for the Guardian.

White Room QH  
£10.00 includes light lunch

### 2pm Gareth.P. Jones



Author of the **Dragon Detective Agency** series and the corkscrew-plotted **The Thornthwaite Inheritance** Gareth.P. Jones understands how much children love a mystery. He'll be talking about some of his characters, including a red-backed, green-bellied, urban-based Mountain dragon called Dirk Dilly.

Library QH **K I D S**  
Kids age 7+  
£3.00

### 4pm Gold-Dagger winner Ann Cleeves and Martyn Waites: A Sense of Place



Good crime fiction always summons up a memorable location – Sherlock Holmes' London, Raymond Chandler's Los Angeles. Two of the North East's top crime writers explain why their work is so rooted in the landscape.

White Room QH **F**  
£5.00

### 5.30pm Emerald Noir: the emergence of contemporary Irish crime fiction



Twenty years ago, the Scots surged to the forefront of international crime fiction with few discernible roots. Now it's the turn of the Irish to take the world by storm. Declan Hughes, Stuart Neville and Alan Glynn are three of the leading proponents of this extraordinary new wave of Hibernian talent. Three things unite them: an unsparing critical eye that sees beyond the surface of social and political life and a willingness to expose uncomfortable truths; vivid and evocative writing; and a genuine talent to entertain. Come along and discover tomorrow's stars today. Chaired by Laura Wilson.

White Room QH **NF**  
£5.00

### 7.30pm Who Are You? Truth and fiction in forensic science, Val McDermid in conversation with Professor Sue Black



When writers need to discover what's really possible and what might actually happen, they need their own expert witnesses. Tonight, Diamond Dagger award winner Val McDermid talks with the woman she always turns to - Professor Sue Black, Britain's leading forensic anthropologist. Professor Black's commitment to finding answers for bereaved relatives has led to her working on mass graves in Kosovo and Iraq and the Indian Ocean tsunami. Her work with police has revolutionised aspects of identifying criminals. Eavesdrop on a fascinating and entertaining encounter between two women who deal with death in very different ways.

Theatre QH **F**  
£7.00

### 1pm Festival Read event 'Brighton Rock' Book & Film



Join playwright and screenwriter Michael Chaplin to discuss the Graham Green classic. Then enjoy the rare treat of seeing this seminal, vintage British crime thriller, advised on by Green himself, on the big screen.

Forum Cinema, Hexham  
£5.50 (£4.50 conc)  
tickets from [www.forumhexham.co.uk](http://www.forumhexham.co.uk)  
or Tel 01434 601144

### Crime Day Pass

Book a Crime Day Pass and enjoy PD.James, Ann Cleeves and Martyn Waites, Emerald Noir, and Val McDermid with Professor Sue Black for only £20!

### Year round events run by Hexham Book Festival

**Hospital Book of the Month;** a free to loan book club of brand new titles, supported by Bloomsbury Publishing, at Hexham Hospital.

**Online Book Group;** great for those who can't find a local book group or get out to the meetings. This way you can read at your own pace and add your comments online if you want to. Go to our website to see our choice for the month.

**A new Audio Book Group** for visually impaired people launches this spring in Hexham Library. To join, email or call us. Supported by The Community Foundation and the Hexham Courant.

**Friends of Hexham Book Festival:** Become a friend, get closer to HBF and enjoy several exclusive benefits. Please go to our website for details of how to apply, we look forward to welcoming you.

## Newcastle Centre for the Literary Arts, Newcastle University

**Fleur Adcock & Chase Twichell**  
13 May @ 7pm, Culture Lab

**Nuruddin Farah**  
25 May @ 7pm, Culture Lab

**Jackie Kay**  
Launch of memoir, Red Dust Road  
3 June @ 7pm, Great North Museum: Hancock

**Paul Durcan**  
10 June @ 7pm, Curtis Auditorium

**Writing for TV Day School**  
with Michael Chaplin, Debbie Horsfield, John Yorke  
27 March, 10am – 4pm, Culture Lab

To book, and for further  
information about events and  
courses: [www.ncl.ac.uk/ncla](http://www.ncl.ac.uk/ncla);

**0191 222 7619;**  
[melanie.birch@ncl.ac.uk](mailto:melanie.birch@ncl.ac.uk)



# Mslexia

FOR WOMEN WHO WRITE

*Mslexia* magazine is dedicated to encouraging, nurturing and empowering women writers to produce, publish and have their work read.

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## Cogito Books

Best Independent Bookshop 2009  
North and Midlands



All at Cogito wish the  
Hexham Book Festival  
the success it deserves!

Cogito Books: Festival Bookseller

## Short Story Competition

Calling all young authors aged 9-13!

Exercise your imagination! Write a short story about your Superhero pet and have the chance of hearing it read out by a professional actor at Hexham Book Festival on Saturday 1st May. Meet our judge Andy Cope (and his Spy Dog Lara).

Prizes include £50 worth of book tokens.

Send entries of up to 1000 words entitled 'My Superhero Pet' to Hexham Book Festival, Office 4, Queen's Hall, Hexham, NE46 3LS, or email to [info@hexhambookfestival.co.uk](mailto:info@hexhambookfestival.co.uk).

Remember to put your name, address and age on your entry!

Closing date is **Thursday 1st April**.

# my SUPERHERO Pet



**£50**  
worth of  
book tokens!!



Shepherds Dene  
retreat house

### The Quest for Meaning in Post War Britain

Tuesday 1st – Friday 4th June

Treat yourself to four days relaxing and reading Evelyn Waugh, Muriel Spark and William Golding with Prof John Batchelor who considers how artists struggled to find meaning in post-war Britain

For details of all our courses visit  
[www.shepherdsdene.co.uk](http://www.shepherdsdene.co.uk) or ring  
**01434 682 212** for a 2010 programme

# MA Creative Writing

## 1 year full-time, 2 years part-time

The first Masters degree of its kind  
in the North East

The MA in Creative Writing provides a stimulating and supportive environment to explore prose writing (short stories and novels) and script writing (writing for stage, radio and screen).

This practical degree is ideal for those who wish to become published, work in the writing industry, or those involved in teaching creative writing.

“I especially liked the one-to-one tutorials and meeting visiting speakers – especially published novelists, agents and editors.

My first novel was accepted by Accent Press and I was awarded the Andrea Badenoch Fiction Prize for my second novel Paper Moon.” Marion Husband, Creative Writing MA and award-winning author.

For further details and an  
application form call:

**0191 227 4444**

Email [ar.admissions@northumbria.ac.uk](mailto:ar.admissions@northumbria.ac.uk)

  
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UNIVERSITY  
*great learning great experience great future*



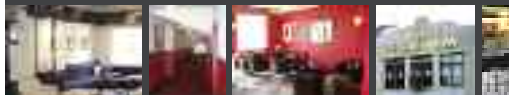
### School of Mathematics & Statistics

Newcastle University  
[mathsandstats@ncl.ac.uk](mailto:mathsandstats@ncl.ac.uk)  
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<i>Greggs Trust</i>	<i>The Roundhouse Design Consultants</i>
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### Contact Us

If you have any questions or would like to make a suggestion about the Hexham Book Festival, we would be happy to hear from you, just send an email to [info@hexhambookfestival.co.uk](mailto:info@hexhambookfestival.co.uk)

To subscribe to our email service and for more information about the festival and ongoing updates from the Hexham Book Festival, please go to our website: [www.hexhambookfestival.co.uk](http://www.hexhambookfestival.co.uk)

### Ticket Information

Tickets for events can be booked directly through the Queen's Hall Box Office on 01434 652477, or book online at [www.queenshall.co.uk](http://www.queenshall.co.uk).

(NB events at the Forum Cinema, except AL Kennedy Masterclass, need to be booked from [www.forumhexham.co.uk](http://www.forumhexham.co.uk) or 01434 601144.)

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