

A fabulous festival of books, words, writers and ideas

2023

MK
LIT FEST

13-15 October

MK Lit Fest

Alex Hay
Carrie Dunn
Dr Tony Juniper
Gommie
Kevin Jon Davies
Lu Williams
Paula Harrison
Roy Nevitt

Alex Willmore
Charlie Hill
Freya Berry
Jude Higgins
Lizzie Waterworth
Paul David Gould
Rosemary Hill

Central Library and Waterstones
Milton Keynes



Proudly working with



Westbury Arts Centre





ALEX HAY AND FREYA BERRY: PLAYING WITH THE PAST

FRIDAY 13 OCT

6:30-7:30PM • WATERSTONES CMK • £8

Alex Hay and **Freya Berry's** dazzling new novels revel in dark secrets, audacious characters and vivid, atmospheric settings. From a daring Park Lane heist to a dangerous treasure hunt in a ruined Scottish castle, discover their worlds of historical fiction, and what drew their imaginations into the past.

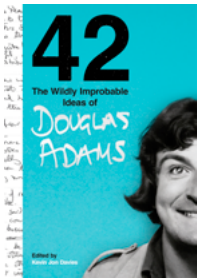
SATURDAY 14 OCT

TALES FROM THE CITY WITH ROY NEVITT: MINK2024 CREATIVE WRITING COMPETITION LAUNCH

10-10:30AM

CMK LIBRARY • £FREE

In the past few decades, Milton Keynes has evolved into a bold new city with its own cultural identity. **Roy Nevitt** has been, for many, the city's cultural godfather, and this year he's joining MK Lit Fest to speak about the city's extraordinary evolution – and to launch our new creative writing competition, Mink2024, 'Tales from the City.'



KEVIN JON DAVIES: 42

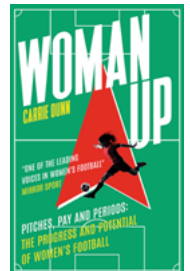
11AM-12PM • CMK LIBRARY • £8

When Douglas Adams died in 2001, he left 60 boxes of notebooks, letters, scripts, jokes, speeches and even poems. In 42, hundreds of these appear in print for the first time, compiled by Douglas's long-time collaborator **Kevin Jon Davies**, bringing us a captivating insight into the mind of one of the 20th century's most enduring storytellers.

CARRIE DUNN: THE RISE OF THE LIONESSES

12:30-1:30PM • CMK LIBRARY • £8

As World Cup finalists and Euro 22 Champions, England's Lionesses are at the top of their game. But in 1921 the FA banned women's football, pronouncing it 'quite unsuitable for females'. Leading sports writer **Carrie Dunn** brings her unique insight to shine a light on the evolution of the game, and the challenges that persist...



GOMMIE: A JOURNEY INTO HOPE

2-3PM • CMK LIBRARY • £8

Poet-artist **Gommie** began walking England's coastline in 2019 with just a backpack, a tent and a large collection of pens. His aim? Searching for hope in increasingly hard times. Through poetry and art, conversation and questions, he brings us his findings – and explores what his journey has brought to light.

PAUL DAVID GOULD: NEW VOICES 3:30-4:30PM • CMK LIBRARY • £8

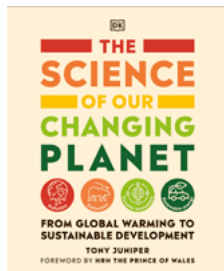
Showcasing startling new writers as they emerge is part of MK Lit Fest's mission, so we're delighted to welcome **Paul David Gould** with his debut novel. A Moscow-set literary thriller, *Last Dance at the Discotheque for Deviants* is a gripping mystery – and the poignantly human tale of people beset by forces beyond their control.



DR TONY JUNIPER CBE: THE SCIENCE OF OUR CHANGING PLANET

6:30PM-7:30PM • WATERSTONES CMK • £8

Join celebrated environmentalist and sustainability advisor **Dr Tony Juniper** as he explores just how we've changed our planet, and what we can do – now – to soften our impact. Understand the science that explains what pressure Earth is under, and how to take action.



WORKSHOPS

SATURDAY 14 OCT

DELIVERING YOUR WORDS: PERFORMANCE WORKSHOP FOR WRITERS WITH ROSEMARY HILL

11AM-1PM • COMMUNITY LEARNING MK, CMK LIBRARY • £20

If approaching the blank page brings a shiver of apprehension, what about facing an expectant audience that's waiting to hear your words? But performing your work doesn't need to be daunting: in this workshop **Rosemary Hill** brings strategies to help you go beyond 'reading aloud' and to deliver your poem or story confidently.



ZINE CREATOR WORKSHOP (LIT FEST COMMUNITY PROGRAMME) WITH LU WILLIAMS (AGES 14-18)

11:30AM-1:30PM • COMMUNITY LEARNING MK, CMK LIBRARY • £FREE



Everyone can make a zine, and in this workshop you'll do just that. We will cover a short history of zines, making techniques, and writing or drawing exercises to combat fear of the blank page, and you'll go away with your own zine, and contribute to a collaborative zine of which you'll get copies.

WRITING SATIRE WORKSHOP WITH CHARLIE HILL

2-4PM • COMMUNITY LEARNING MK, CMK LIBRARY • £20

In this workshop event with writer **Charlie Hill**, you'll explore different classical approaches to satire, look at the relationship between satire and morality, and ponder the role of satire in world where reality and parody seem increasingly to wear each other's wardrobes.



DREAMS INTO FICTION:

FLASH FICTION WORKSHOP WITH JUDE HIGGINS

SUNDAY 15 OCT

2-4PM • ZOOM • £20

In this workshop with Bath Flash Fiction Award supremo, **Jude Higgins**, we'll look at different ways you can create short fictions from dreams - either current or recurrent. You'll come away with three drafts, ideas on how to make them finished stories, and suggestions on where to send for publication.

CHILDREN'S LIT FEST

SATURDAY 14 OCT

PAULA HARRISON:

KITTY AND THE SNOWBALL BANDIT (AGE 5+)

12:30-1:30PM • CHILDREN'S LIBRARY • £5
(PLUS £3 PER ACCOMPANYING ADULT)

Join bestselling children's author **Paula Harrison** as she talks about the inspiration behind the Kitty series featuring a girl with cat-like superpowers. Paula will read a chapter from her newest book, *Kitty and the Snowball Bandit*, and you'll have the chance to ask lots of questions and to make your own superhero mask!



ALEX WILLMORE: SPYCERATOPS (AGE 3+)

2-3PM • CHILDREN'S LIBRARY • £5
(PLUS £3 PER ACCOMPANYING ADULT)

Meet the little dinosaur who is the Greatest Secret Agent in the World! Spyceratops has all the skills: sneaking, peeking, blending in, daredevil manoeuvres. She has all the kit: groovy gadgets, loyal sidekick, awesome spymobile. And now Spyceratops wants to share her spy skills with YOU!

LIZZIE WATERWORTH:

HOW TO TALK SO PEOPLE WILL LISTEN (AGE 8+)

3:30-4:30PM • CHILDREN'S LIBRARY • £5
(PLUS £3 PER ACCOMPANYING ADULT)

Everyone has to speak in public sometimes, and it can be a bit scary! But it doesn't have to be. Voice artist **Lizzie Waterworth** - the voice of Horrid Henry - brings all the tips and tricks you'll need from her new book. Discover how to find your voice and boost your confidence, while creating your own cartoon character!



Visit our website at WWW.MKLITFEST.ORG for tickets and more information.

You can follow MK Lit Fest on Facebook, X or Instagram: @MKLitFest.