

Rochdale Literature & Ideas Festival

24-26 October 2014

www.rochdaleliteraturefestival.co.uk



ROCHDALE
BIRTHPLACE OF CO-OPERATION

 @RochdaleLitFest

Get set, go!

Hello and welcome back to Rochdale Literature & Ideas Festival. Founded in 2013, our festival enjoyed a fabulous debut and is fast becoming a staple of the borough's cultural calendar.

This year's programme is another feast – over 40 shows in 3 days and an inspiring schedule covering drama, comedy, dance, literature, music, theatre, films, visual arts and children's shows.

We hope this programme helps you find your way around the festival so you can spend the maximum amount of time enjoying yourself.

The festival is thanks to the generosity of Annie and Frank Maskew, a Rochdale couple who met in the original Rochdale Library in the 1950s. They shared a profound love of literature and philosophy and left a sum of money to be used on resources and events related to literature and philosophy, ensuring classic works are available for future generations. The Maskew Collection of classic literature and philosophy is at Rochdale Central Library. Check it out!

Make sure you see something new, soak up the atmosphere and try something a bit different.

Enjoy the festival.

The Festival Team
Rochdale Borough Council



A very warm Rochdale welcome to all of you. I'm excited to see this event return, once again with a fantastic line up.

It's a perfect way to showcase our borough. Annie and Frank would have been proud to see people of all ages coming to their beloved hometown to enjoy the festival.

A big thank you to everyone who makes it possible, authors and performers, sponsors, partners, volunteers and of course, our audiences – we couldn't do it without you.

Richard Farnell
Leader, Rochdale Borough Council

Rochdale on the rise.

Rochdale town centre is being transformed. An attractive vibrant town centre is being created, with fantastic leisure, shopping, cultural and learning opportunities.

Number One Riverside, the iconic main festival venue is just one of the developments, along with the striking new Transport Interchange on Smith Street. Rochdale Leisure Centre on Entwisle Road opened in 2012. Metrolink trams now run into the town centre.

In the last year alone we've staged a game in the Rugby League World Cup, hosted the Tour de France and of course, Rochdale Feel Good Festival. We've a rich cultural heritage and a fabulous Grade 1 listed town hall.

With two top rated colleges close to the town centre, Touchstones Arts & Heritage Centre, the Pioneers Museum and plans for a major retail and leisure development, Rochdale is on the rise.

Visit www.rochdaletowncentre.com or follow [@RochdaleCentre](https://twitter.com/RochdaleCentre) for the latest.



Town centre transformation



Access information

Our intention is to make everything we do accessible to all our audiences.

We therefore offer a free ticket for support workers/assistants that travel with disabled patrons to ensure they are able to attend.

Please be prepared to show relevant ID upon admission to events. If you have any special requirements or are a support worker/assistant please email rochdalelitfest@rochdale.gov.uk or phone **0300 303 8876**.

What do you think?

We want to learn more about your experience of access at Rochdale Literature & Ideas Festival and would welcome your feedback by emailing rochdalelitfest@rochdale.gov.uk

Get inspired! The festival blog

Visit our website for the festival blog. As well as finding out more about what's going on it's the first place to find the latest news and reviews.

Think

Stop press

We're adding new events regularly, so visit our website www.rochdaleliteraturefestival.co.uk for the very latest.

The festival is organised by Rochdale Borough Council, funded by the Maskew Collection with support from Bright Books. Whilst every care has been taken to ensure accuracy of information at the time of going to print, Rochdale Borough Council 'the organisers' do not warrant or assume any legal liability for the accuracy of information disclosed. Rochdale Borough Council reserves the right to change information contained within the programme. Please pass your programme onto a friend or recycle it when you've finished with it.



Ian McMillan
Taking Myself Home

A combination of words, stories, glee and delight. Ian is poet-in-residence for The Academy of Urbanism and Barnsley FC.

He presents The Verb every week on BBC Radio 3 and he's a regular on Coast, Pick of the Week, You & Yours, Last Word and The Arts Show. He's been a castaway on Desert Island Discs and featured with his Orchestra on The South Bank Show.

Number One Riverside
14:00 (1 hour)
£8 Suitable for age 14+

Willy Russell
An evening with

The much loved multi award winning dramatist, lyricist and composer, best known for Shirley Valentine, Educating Rita and Blood Brothers, the smash hit West End musical, talks about his extraordinary life.

Hear about his transition from an unacademic working-class youth to one of our most renowned playwrights. His work has attracted huge and appreciative audiences worldwide. In 2000, he published his first novel, The Wrong Boy.

Number One Riverside
19:15 (1 hour)
£8 Suitable for age 14+



Rosie Garland

Novelist, poet, and singer in post-punk band The March Violets, Rosie is a seasoned performer, from the Cheltenham Festival to the Bowery Poetry Club, New York.

She has five solo collections of poetry and her debut novel was named The Co-operative Bank Book of the Year 2013.

Writing Workshop

Rosie hosts an interactive session on writing for writers at any stage of their experience.

Number One Riverside
15:00 (1 hour)
£2 Suitable for age 14+

Meet the author

Rosie performs some of her best loved work.

Number One Riverside
16:00 (1 hour)
£2 Suitable for age 14+



Alan Gibbons

Meet the author - and film 'And She Cried'

Alan has been writing children's books for twenty three years. He is winner of the Blue Peter Book Award 2000 'The book I couldn't put down' for his best-selling Shadow of the Minotaur.

He was also shortlisted for the Carnegie Medal in 2001 and 2003 and twice for the Booktrust Teenage Prize. His recent book Hate was inspired by the death of Sophie Lancaster, murdered because she was dressed as a Goth. He will introduce 'And She Cried' - an extraordinarily powerful film developed by Leaky Shed Films and the Human First organisation, through the inspirational work of the Sophie Lancaster Foundation.

Number One Riverside
17:30 (1 hour 15 minutes)
FREE (booking required)

Suitable for age 12+
Children under 14 must be accompanied by an adult



Sara Crowe

The road to publication

Sara taught cinema and photography studies until 2012, when she bought a camper van and set off with her partner and dogs to explore the British Isles.

Bone Jack, her debut novel for young adults, was published by Andersen Press in April 2014. In this Q&A session, Sara will discuss her work, the writing process, the road to publication and what happens after your debut novel is published. Perfect for aspiring writers.

Number One Riverside
19:00 (1 hour)
£2 Suitable for age 14+



Dave Spikey
Punchlines

Co-writer and star of legendary comedy series Phoenix Nights and team captain on 8 out of 10 Cats (Channel 4), the double British Comedy Award winner is one of the funniest live performers in the UK.

Middleton Arena
20:00 (2 hours plus interval) **£17** Suitable for age 14+



MaD Theatre Company



Gin and Chronic Arthritis

From the producers of Posh Tramps & Papooses, Gin & Chronic Arthritis is one of MaD Theatre Company's best-loved comedies.

Touchstones Arts and Heritage Centre
19:00 (2 hours)
£5 Suitable for age 12+
Children under 14 must be accompanied by an adult

World of Poetry and Music



Multicultural Arts and Media

Join a host of poets, plus international musicians, for a celebration of poetry and music, representing cultures from across the borough.

Number One Riverside
19:30 (2 hours)
FREE (booking required)
Suitable for all ages
Children under 14 must be accompanied by an adult

An evening with Tom Hingley



Carpet Burns: My Life with Inspiral Carpets

Tom talks about his life as lead singer of Inspiral Carpets, one of the big three bands of the Manchester movement who, changed music for a generation.

Includes a live acoustic set.
The Flying Horse Hotel
20:30 (1 hour 30 minutes)
FREE (booking required)
Suitable for age 18+





Jackie Kay MBE

An hour with

The daughter of a Scottish mother and Nigerian father, Jackie was adopted at birth and brought up in Glasgow, going on to study at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama and at Stirling University.

Her awareness of her different heritages inspired her first book of poetry, *The Adoption Papers* – which won the Scottish Arts Council Book of the Year. Subsequent collections and her celebrated first novel, *Trumpet*, have continued to explore issues of cultural and sexual identity. She's also written critically acclaimed stage plays, children's poetry, and her work has been broadcast on BBC Radio. Jackie will read from her recent short stories *Reality*, *Reality* and from her Costa-shortlisted collection of poems *Fiere*, as well as from new poems.

Number One Riverside

17:00 (1 hour) **£8** Suitable for age 14+

Lucy Spraggan

Live

The soulful singer-songwriter shot to fame after making it to the live shows of ITV's *The X Factor* in 2012.

Her memorable performance of her own song *Tea and Toast*, received a standing ovation and over 28 million views on YouTube. In 2013 she had two top 40 singles – *Lighthouse* and *Last Night*. Lucy performs her unique style of acoustic folk and pop. Following her performance Lucy talks about her work, writing and inspiration, looking at how she's successfully combined humour, talent and honesty to create her own fresh sound. An insightful look into the life of an incredible young performer.

Number One Riverside

14:00 (2 hours)

£10 Suitable for age 11+

Children under 14 must be accompanied by an adult



Jane Danson

Acting skills workshop

Star of stage and screen Jane Danson presents a workshop designed to develop your acting skills, and confidence in a fun relaxed atmosphere.

The session will cover techniques and tips on performing in front of a live audience and on television. A multiple award winner, she collected a British Soap Award in 2011 for 'Best Dramatic Performance.'

Number One Riverside

11:30 (45 minutes) **£5** Suitable for age 14-18 years

In conversation

A must for all Coronation Street fans!

Actress Jane Danson talks about her life and television career as well as taking questions from the audience. In *Coronation Street*, her controversial Battersby family were dubbed the 'neighbours from hell' and made an immediate impact on the long-running show's loyal audience.

Number One Riverside

13:00 (1 hour) **FREE** (booking required) Age 11+

Children under 14 must be accompanied by an adult



Gill Parnell-Jackson

Magic Carpet Yoga

Magic Carpet Yoga brings adventurous tales from around the world combined with simple yoga, relaxation and breathing techniques.

Gill Parnell-Jackson creates interactive stories for children combining storytelling, yoga practices and movement.

Number One Riverside

11:30 & 13:00 (30 minutes)

£2 Suitable for ages 3 to 8

Children under 14 must be accompanied by an adult



Manchester Salon

Writers & war:

reflecting or shaping our perceptions?

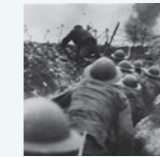
Shirley Dent, Jane Potter and others look at the incredibly moving poetry that came out of the trenches and how literature shapes our perceptions of war, chaired by Rania Hafez.

Number One Riverside

11:30 (1 hour 30 minutes)

FREE (booking required)

Suitable for age 14+



Mark Gwynne Jones

Wordworms!

In a family show of wild imaginings, award winning poet and performer, Mark Gwynne Jones invites you to meet the boy with the eye on his index finger, learn to escape school by becoming a cat and make friends with a giant toad!

Based on his new collection for young readers, *Wordworms!* will introduce you to some extraordinary characters and lead you to a place where words are alive and the impossible is possible.

Number One Riverside

12:00 (1 hour)

£2 Suitable for age 7+

Children under 14 must be accompanied by an adult



An afternoon with Steve Hanley & Olivia Piekarski

Steve Hanley and Olivia Piekarski in conversation about their book *The Big Midweek: Life Inside The Fall*, the first insider's account of life inside seminal British band, *The Fall*.

Steve and Olivia will be discussing the writing of this unique memoir that reads more like a novel, and puts us right in the heart of the action: on stage, on the tour bus, in the recording studio, and up close and personal with an eccentric cast of band mates. The event includes live music; Steve Hanley and *The Big Midweek* band will be performing a selection of songs from the book.

Number One Riverside

16:00 (1 hour 30 minutes)

£5 Suitable for age 14+



Family fun

Every day there'll be lots of family friendly activities. Come along and join in the fun.

Show your passion



Liz Kershaw

The Bird and the Beeb: The facts of a life at the BBC

Liz Kershaw's love of music has taken her from Rochdale to Radio 1 and beyond.

After being plucked from a job at BT in the eighties, she teamed up with Bruno Brookes on the nation's favourite breakfast show. It was the start of a thrilling career that has seen Liz mix with all the big names. She returns to her hometown to talk about her honest and entertaining autobiography, lifting the lid on her life at the BBC and the real stories behind the headlines.

Number One Riverside

15:00 (1 hour)

£5 Suitable for age 14+

Bill Turnbull

Breakfast, bees and Bill

Television presenter and journalist Bill Turnbull, best known for presenting BBC Breakfast on BBC1, is one of the UK's most famous faces.

Away from the small screen, he's a well-known bee-keeping enthusiast and has written two books on the subject, including *The Bad Beekeepers Club: How I stumbled into the curious world of bees - and became (perhaps) a better person*. He'll be talking about his life in front of the camera, his love of bee-keeping and revealing what it's like to cover breaking world news as well as sharing stories from his interviews with some of the biggest names in show business.

Number One Riverside

16:30 (1 hour) **£5** Suitable for age 11+

Children under 14 must be accompanied by an adult



Chrissie Manby

Writing workshop

Author of sixteen romantic comedies including *Getting Personal*, *The Matchbreaker* and *Seven Sunny Days*.

She has had several Sunday Times bestsellers and her recent novel about behaving badly after a break-up, *Getting Over Mr. Right*, was nominated for the Melissa Nathan Award.

Number One Riverside

11:00 (2 hours)

£5 Suitable for age 14+

Meet the author - reading and book signing

15:00 (1 hour)

£2 Suitable for age 14+



Afrocats

Dance workshop

An exciting workshop to get your heart rates jumping with African and Caribbean dance drum beats.

Dance artist, Magdalen Bartlett, will lead the workshops and give you the chance to learn a dance and share your moves.

Number One Riverside

11:00 (1 hour 30 minutes)

FREE (booking required)

Suitable for age 9+

Children under 14 must be accompanied by an adult

M6 Theatre

Whatever the Weather

An imaginative new production for the very young is set in the charming world of a traditional Alpine weather house.

M6 Studio

11:00 & 14:00 (1 hour)

FREE (booking required)

Suitable for age 3+

Children under 14 must be accompanied by an adult



Tony Walsh

Sex & Love & Rock&Roll

One of the UK's most renowned performance poets, Tony Walsh, or Longfella as he is also known, is quite literally a giant of the performance poetry scene.

With a direct, accessible style, his acclaimed live set takes audiences on a rock and rollercoaster ride from comedy to the deadly serious. He'll be reading from his recent book - *Sex & Love & Rock&Roll* - described as musical poems which soundtrack our lives, brimming with northern warmth and humour.

Number One Riverside

16:00 (1 hour)

£5 Suitable for age 15+



Manchester International Roots Orchestra

Music concert

A unique ensemble of musicians with global roots, their repertoire combines musical influences from haunting Eastern European melodies, the delicate textures of Middle Eastern percussion and vocals, through to soulful Sufi chants of South Asia and joyful African gospel - embracing rap, hip-hop, classical and jazz.

MIRO received a 5 star rating at the Edinburgh Festival.

Number One Riverside

17:30 (1 hour)

FREE (booking required)

Suitable for age 11+

Children under 14 must be accompanied by an adult



Sherlock Holmes Murder Mystery

After Dark Entertainment

The world's greatest detective needs your help to solve a murder. Is Moriarty being a smarty?

Is Mrs Hudson involved in corruption and can you discover what's up with Watson? Remember when you have eliminated the impossible, whatever remains, however improbable, must be the truth. It's Elementary.

Heywood Library

19:00 (1 hour 30 minutes)

£4 Suitable for age 11+

Children under 14 must be accompanied by an adult



Ghost walk

Tales of terror and horrifying hauntings, mixed with some fascinating history of old Rochdale brought to life by professional actor Colin Meredith.

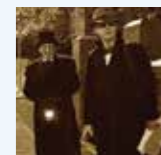
Probably the most unusual show of the festival!

Meet at The Baum

19:30 (1 hour 15 minutes)

£4 Suitable for age 6+

Children under 14 must be accompanied by an adult



Book signings

Books written by the festival guests will be on sale during the festival and there will be signing sessions every day.

Book yourself in!

The festival website is the best way to get tickets for every ticketed show at Rochdale Literature & Ideas Festival.

Book online at www.rochdaleliteraturefestival.co.uk
24 hours a day, seven days a week.

You can print paper tickets yourself via the website, or use the free mobile phone app to show at the event. You'll get the option when you book.

In person

If you can't book online, it's no problem. You can book and collect tickets from the festival box office located in Rochdale Central Library, Number One Riverside, Smith Street.

Open 6 days a week during library opening hours.

There are no booking fees or additional charges. The ticket price is the price you pay.

Box office
information

Pre-festival events

Before the main festival begins, look out for preview shows across the borough.

For full listings and to book tickets visit
www.rochdaleliteraturefestival.co.uk

Dare to
do it!

Thursday 2 October

Cheryl Martin Poetry Workshop



As part of National Poetry Day celebrations Cheryl hosts a workshop to help budding poets develop their work. It will be about writing from real life stories and experiences.

Number One Riverside
17:00 (1 hour)
£2 Suitable for age 14+

Alaska Poetry collection launch

The launch of Cheryl's first solo poetry collection, where she will be reading some of her work and explaining her inspiration. Alaska, by Crocus Books / Commonword.

Number One Riverside
18:15 (30 minutes)
FREE Suitable for age 14+

Thursday 9 October

Ursula Holden Gill Storytelling



This promises to be an evening of warm stories from the heart by International Storyteller Ursula Holden Gill. An insightful comedienne, with a voice "like molasses" Ursula has that rare gift of authenticity in her humour. Her style is largely influenced by her love of home and heritage.

Number Ten Gallery
19:00 arrival for 19.30 start (1 hour)
£2 Suitable for age 14+

Saturday 11 October

Josh Record Music gig - In association with Get It Loud In Libraries



Josh Record is an exciting up and coming British alternative artist. His first release on indie label National Anthem in 2012 made it to number 2 in the Singer Songwriter charts on iTunes in the UK. His next self-produced EP 'The War' received critical acclaim and Zane Lowe made the title track his 'Hottest Record of 2013' on BBC Radio 1.

Number One Riverside
20:15 (2 hours)
£8 Suitable for all ages
Children under 14 must be accompanied by an adult

Saturday 11 October

125 years celebration of Middleton Library



First opened in 1889 as Jubilee Free Library, this historic and much loved library marks its birthday with a day of family fun.

Middleton Library
10:00 (5 hours)
FREE (no booking required)
Suitable for all ages
Children under 14 must be accompanied by an adult

Thursday 16 October

Billy Cowan Play writing workshop - a play in a day!



Can you write a stage play in one day? Award-winning playwright Billy Cowan thinks you can. Come and find out how. This interactive, practical workshop will take you through his process of coming up with ideas, developing plot, character and scenes quickly and painlessly. His first play Smilin' Through won the 2003 Writing Out award for Best New Gay Play.

Number One Riverside
19:00 (1 hour 30 minutes)
£2 Suitable for age 14+



Refunds

The festival cannot refund money or exchange tickets, except in the case of a cancelled performance.

Timings

Timings are approximate and are for guidance only. Doors open 15 minutes before the performance is due to start.

Latecomers

Please arrive in plenty of time. It is not always possible to admit latecomers once an event has started and we reserve the right to refuse admission to any performance until a suitable break.

Stop press

We're adding new events regularly, so visit our website www.rochdaleliteraturefestival.co.uk for the very latest.

Other booking information

Programmes and performers may be subject to change. All information in this brochure was correct at the time of going to print.

Free events

Free events may have limited capacity and entry cannot be guaranteed. Please arrive early.

Recording/filming

Some events or shows may be filmed or photographed. Attendance at an event affirms your consent to the filming, sound recording or photographing of yourself as a member of the audience.

Saturday 18 October

Langley Writers

Activity day

A creative mix of different events including a children's poetry workshop with Craig Bradley, a performance by Langley Theatre Workshop, a craft workshop for children, a magician and the showing of the WW1 memorial film 'Middleton Remembers', made by REELMcr.

Langley Library

11:00 (4 hours)

FREE (no booking required)

Suitable for all ages
Children under 14 must be accompanied by an adult



Monday 20 October

To Kill a Mockingbird

Film

This moving film is based on Harper Lee's 1960 Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, a classic of modern American literature.

Middleton Arena

19:00 (2 hours 15 minutes)

£4 (Concessions £2.50)

Suitable for age 12+
Children under 14 must be accompanied by an adult



Thursday 23 October

Robert Graham

When you were a Mod, I was a Rocker

Author Robert Graham will be talking about his latest book – from a long list of published work. He's currently the Programme Leader for Creative Writing at Liverpool John Moores University.

His short stories have appeared in many magazines and anthologies and on BBC Radio 4. He is the author of How To Write Fiction (And Think About It) (Palgrave, 2006) and co-author of Everything You Need To Know About Creative Writing (Bloomsbury, 2007) and The Road To Somewhere: A Creative Writing Companion (Palgrave, 2014).

Number Ten Gallery

19:00 arrival for 19.30 start (1 hour)

£2 Suitable for age 14+



Saturday 18 October

Afrocats

Dance workshop

An exciting workshop to get your heart rates jumping with African and Caribbean dance drum beats.

Dance artist, Magdalen Bartlett, will lead the workshop and give you the chance to learn a dance and share your moves at the festival.

Number One Riverside

11:00 (1 hour 30 minutes)

FREE Suitable for age 9+

Children under 14 must be accompanied by an adult



Thursday 23 October

Scribble Festival

Writing festival

Scribble festival is Cartwheel Arts' annual literature celebration, with writing workshops, panel discussions, live performances with leading artists from the North West.

The drama continues in the evening with monologues, audio and visual installations and "Verbally Challenged", the chance for the audience to vote! To celebrate Black History Month, storyteller Akiel Chinelo will combine African tales with modern yarns from his native city of Manchester.

Middleton Arena

14:00 (across the day and evening, ends 21:00) FREE

Suitable for age 14+



Reading between the lines

Running every 12 minutes between Rochdale, Oldham, Manchester and beyond...
Metrolink is the novel way to get to the festival.



 Metrolink

www.metrolink.co.uk

Rochdale Literature & Ideas Festival

Our partners

