

GLOUCESTER 20 POETRY FESTIVAL 19

magic

FACEBOOK @GLOUCESTERPOETRYFESTIVAL
WWW.THEGLOUCESTERSHIREPOETRYSOCIETY.CO.UK





A MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDER

Once a year in October, poetry takes over Gloucestershire and the City with an array of events, featuring a wealth of renowned local and national guest poets and the opportunity for the local community to engage with live poetry and workshops, as well as open mic at all events.

The Gloucestershire Poetry Festival is organised and promoted by the Gloucestershire Poetry Society. With each year, the festival grows in stature and impact with events across the city and surrounding towns. This is a place where poetry is for all, without pretension and brings inspiration to the local community.

Z D Dicks

Founder of the Gloucestershire Poetry Society

BE A SPONSOR

We welcome interest from local businesses and organisations for business sponsorship of both the festival and society.

Please get in touch if you are interested in becoming a sponsor.

SUPPORT US

If you have an interest in poetry or supporting local arts based community projects, you can support us in many ways.

You can make a donation to the society or get involved in bringing poetry to new audiences within our local communities.

PERFORMING AT THE 2020 FESTIVAL

Features and Guest Poets are asked to contact the GPS with an expression of interest, as we carefully select features for festival events. If you'd like to be considered for the 2020 festival, please contact us.

GPS ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

If you would like to be an Official Member of the Gloucestershire Poetry Society, we have an Annual Membership which costs just £12.

To find out more about official membership and its benefits, visit our website at:

www.thegloucestershirepoetrysociety.co.uk

30 Intimate Nature-Launch Party

Sep The Fountain Inn - Monday 19:00-22:30

Join us for the launch of Z D Dicks' second book, *Intimate Nature*, with guests performances.

Limited signed copies will be available on the night with open mic.



John Porter

John Porter's poems have been published widely in publications such as *The Stinging Fly*, *Prole*, *Strix*, and *Poetry Birmingham*. He lives in Cheltenham after previous stints in London and Moscow and usually writes on trains or whilst waiting for children to fall asleep.



Anna Saunders

Anna Saunders is the author of *Communion*, (Wild Conversations Press), *Struck*, (Pindrop Press) *Kissing the She Bear*, (Wild Conversations Press), *Burne Jones and the Fox* (Indigo Dreams) and *Ghosting for Beginners* (Indigo Dreams, Spring 2018). Anna has had poems published in journals and anthologies, including *Ambit*, *The North*, *New Walk Magazine*, *Amaryllis*, *Iota*, *Caduceus*, *Envoi*, *The Wenlock Anthology* and *Eyeflash*. Anna is also the CEO of Cheltenham Poetry Festival.



Adam Horovitz

Adam Horovitz is a poet and performer. His first full collection, *Turning*, was released in 2011. He published a memoir, *A Thousand Laurie Lees*, in 2014 to mark the centenary of Laurie Lee and a CD of poetry and music, *Little Metropolis*, in 2015. His second full collection, *The Soil Never Sleeps*, was released by Palewell Press in 2018. A second edition was released in August 2019. He has been poet in residence for Glastonbury festival's official website, Herefordshire County and the Pasture-fed

Livestock Association and is one of Ledbury Poetry Festival's Versopolis poets.

03 Barniverse

Oct Tigers Eye Restaurant - Thursday 19:00-22:00



Nick Lovell

Nick is a part time greyhound commentator and occasional poet. When not shouting commentaries at dogs as they race for the finish, he recites poetry at audiences as they race for the exit... A multiple slam winner, Nick combines poetry, humour and life experience to try to provide something for everyone. Sometimes he succeeds...

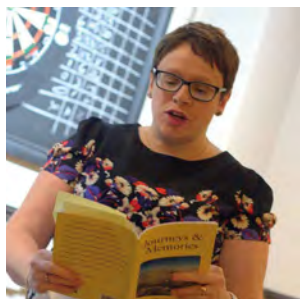


Clive Oseman

Clive Oseman is a Swindon based Brummie who has been active on the spoken word scene since late 2014. He travels widely to perform as well as co hosting events under the Oooh Beehive banner. His second collection, Life, was published in 2018.

04 Barewall Poetry

Oct Barewall Art Gallery - Friday 19:00-21:00



Mel Wardle Woodend

Mel Wardle Woodend is a keen reader, writer and bodyboarder. Her family, animals, interactions with the people she encounters on her journey, and the natural world inspire her work. Mel's published work includes two dyslexia-friendly children's books, a nature collection Natural Colours (2017), and Just a Thought (2019) which focuses on mental health awareness. Mel hopes this will provide a positive reading experience for many.



Stephen Seabridge

Stephen Seabridge is a writer and artist based in Stoke-on-Trent. In 2018 he was selected to be Stoke-on-Trent's first Poet Laureate by a steering group consisting of members from Stanza, Poetry on Loan, as well as the former Birmingham Poet Laureate Roy Mcfarlane. Stephen will be Laureate until 2020.

Alongside this Stephen is also studying a PhD at Keele University, where he was awarded a funding grant and teaching position to complete his research. Stephen's

publishing credits include both print and online magazines and journals.

06 Poetry at Waterstones

Oct Waterstones Gloucester - Sunday 14:00-16:00



Charlie Markwick

Charlie Markwick is a Gloucester based storyteller and poet. He has a large white beard which is an asset in Decembers.

He is relatively new to poetry has never published any, never won a competition but is very good at performing his work!

09 Book Wyrms

Oct Gloucester Library - Wednesday 14:00-16:00



Abdul-Ahad Patel

Abdul-Ahad Patel is a writer, actor and poet. Covering topics from race, culture and religion.

He breaks stereotypes and acts as an extended voice for the oppressed and forgotten.'



Guy Mortenson

Courtney Hulbert, for that tiz also I, came kicking and screaming from the comfortable rhythms of Kipling and Keats of his youth, half a Century ago, into the reborning of modern poetry through the birth canal of an MA at the University of Gloucestershire.

I'll drink to that.



Peter Lay

Peter Lay has co-written a dual language (English/Chinese), cross cultural metaphorical conversation, 'Yellow Over the Mountain'. He has always written poetry but since joining the Gloucestershire Poetry Society in early 2018 he has been performing in Gloucestershire, Wiltshire, Worcester, Birmingham & Stoke on Trent. He has visited Japan three times and during his trip last November he experienced an emotional event when in

Nagasaki and Hiroshima. Several poems about this are featured in his new poetry book, 'Still Tilting at Windmills'.



Stephen Boyce

Stephen Boyce is a prize-winning and widely published poet, the author of three poetry collections, The Blue Tree (Indigo Dreams 2019), The Sisyphus Dog (Worple 2014), and Desire Lines (Arrowhead 2010). He has also published two pamphlet collections – and a needle case of poems. Stephen is a co-founder of Winchester Poetry Festival and lives in north Dorset.

10 Headspace

Oct The Fountain Inn - Thursday 19:00-22:00



Chloë Jacquet

Chloë Jacquet is a multi-slam winning, multicultural, multifaceted spoken word artist based in Gloucestershire. She was 2017 Oxford Hammer & Tongue slam champion and reached the semi-finals of the National Slam Finals at the Royal Albert Hall in both 2018 and 2019. Chloë's poetry is both entertaining and accessible. Her work deals with a wide variety of subjects, ranging from workplace discrimination and mental health, to the pressures placed on modern men.

Chloë thinks name dropping is really uncool. She has supported artists such as Elvis McGonagall and Hollie McNish.



Jemima Hughes

Sit back and don't relax. Jemima is a Birmingham based performance poet who will drag you through the minefield of the unorthodox. Her work covers topics such as sexual violence, mental illness and suicide. Jemima will take you on a journey through her own experiences, providing a relatable outlet and encouraging conversation. Not for the faint hearted, but definitely from the heart.



Tanya Feasey

Tanya Feasey AKA The Bovine Poet, started writing poetry several years ago as she was going to a poetry events. For some reason Tanya then started producing a lot of bovine poetry. She has no idea why this is. It just sort of happened. Tanya is a humorous poet. Her poems reflect her daily life, where she works as a Countryside Ranger. Tanya's poems are often described as witty, extremely rude and quite tactless. For some reason Tanya is proud of this.

16 Book Wyrms

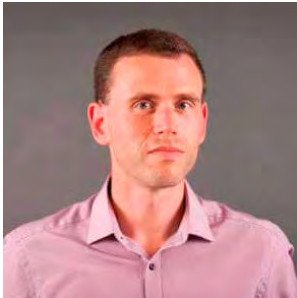
Oct Gloucester Library - Wednesday 14:00-16:00



Nicola Harrison

Singer, author, scriptwriter, performance poet and voice coach, Nicola is Lecturer in Song and Interpretation at Pembroke. She has written for radio, national newspapers and magazines and had work published in a wide number of publications from BBC History magazine to British Music and Classical Music Magazines to Resurgence and Ecologist magazine! Her directorial work focuses on the magical interface of poetry, words and music and her shows explore this

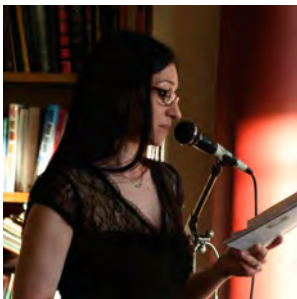
relationship in a multitude of forms, from Shakespeare's songs to the poetry and music of Federico Garcia Lorca.



Rowan Middleton

Rowan Middleton teaches creative writing and English at the University of Gloucestershire.

His poetry recasts the pastoral for an era where the countryside and environment are under threat. His pamphlet *The Stolen Herd* is published by Yew Tree Press.



Maria Stadnicka

Maria Stadnicka is a Romanian writer, journalist and PhD researcher at UWE, Bristol. Her work is published by Dissident Voice, International Times, Social Alternatives, Tears in the Fence, TEXT, The Journal, The Moth. She is the author of *Short Story about War* (2014), *Imperfect* (2017), *The Unmoving* (2018), *Somnia* (2019, Knives, Forks and Spoons Press).

16 Platform 1 £5 Entry

Oct The Station Hotel Gloucester - Wednesday 19:00-22:00



Anna Saunders

Anna Saunders is the author of *Communion*, (Wild Conversations Press), *Struck*, (Pindrop Press) *Kissing the She Bear*, (Wild Conversations Press), *Burne Jones and the Fox* (Indigo Dreams) and *Ghosting for Beginners* (Indigo Dreams, Spring 2018). Anna has had poems published in journals and anthologies, which include *Ambit*, *The North*, *New Walk Magazine*, *Amaryllis*, *Iota*, *Caduceus*, *Envoi*, *The Wenlock Anthology*, *Eyeflash*, and *The Museum of Light*. Anna is

also the CEO of Cheltenham Poetry Festival.

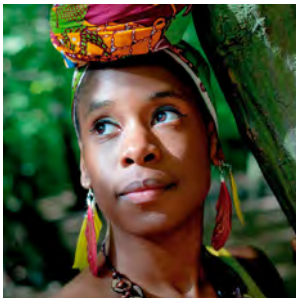


Belinda Rimmer

Belinda Rimmer has worked as a psychiatric nurse, lecturer and creative arts practitioner. Her poems have been widely published in magazines, on-line journals and anthologies. In 2017, she won the Poetry in Motion Competition to turn her poem into a film, since shown Internationally. In 2018, she came second in the *Ambit Poetry Competition*. She is one of the two winners of the *Indigo Dreams First Pamphlet Competition 2018*, with her pamphlet, *Touching Sharks in Monaco* (Spring 2019).

18 Squawkers

Oct The Sober Parot Cheltenham - Friday 19:00-22:30



Birdspeed

Birdspeed 'Safiya Kinshasa' is an artist, choreographer and playwright known for her ability to effortlessly weave storytelling and movement. Birdspeed's most notable performances include: Headlining at the Bowery Poetry Club, NYC; Featuring at the African American Centre in Philadelphia, Featuring at WOMAD festival; A performance at the Bristol Old Vic commissioned by Ujima Radio. She has recently been awarded the title for 2019 Manhattan Arts Festival Laureate.



Casey Bailey

Casey Bailey is a writer, poet, spoken word performer, rapper and secondary school senior leader, born and raised in Nechells, Birmingham. Casey released the short poetry collection *Waiting At Bloomsbury Park* with Big White Shed in 2017, and his debut full collection *'Adjusted'* in 2018 with Verve Poetry Press. In 2018 Casey's poetry featured in anthologies published by MultiStory, The Emma Press and Verve, he was commissioned by organisations including Town Hall

Symphony Hall, the Birmingham Civic Society and West Midlands Combined Authority, and was an artist in residence at The Royal Shakespeare Company.



Scott Cowley

Scott Cowley aka The Rusty Goat; poet, spoken-word artist, promoter, event host, workshop facilitator and founder of Rusty Goat's Poetry Corner.

His hard hitting lines tackle all subjects relating to mental health, wellbeing and his ongoing recovery.

Opening doors for conversations into difficult subjects.

20 Poetry at Waterstones

Oct Waterstones Gloucester - Sunday 14:00-16:00



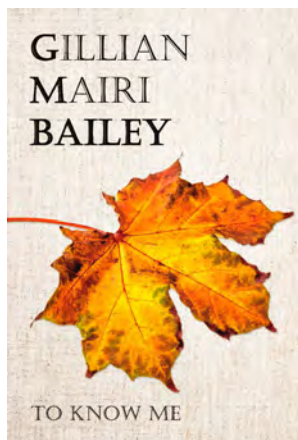
Patricia Camp

Tish Camp is a performance poet writer and singer.

Originally from London of mixed heritage, she's lived in Gloucestershire for 10 years and is a widow, rebounding through the grief with word, theatre and song.

20 Gillian Mairi Bailey 'To Know Me' Book Launch

Oct St Mary de Crypt Church - Sunday 16:45-19:00



The Gloucester Poetry Festival & Black Eyes Publishing UK in collaboration with Discover DeCrypt invite you to join us to launch of the poetry of G M Bailey. Sadly, G M Bailey is no longer with us but thankfully her work is and after being discovered, we are happy to share her words with you all.

The event will have feature guest poets Z D Dicks, Anna Saunders, Belinda Rimmer, Adam Horowitz and Josephine Lay reading a selection of poems from the book as well as their own.

A selection of other poets will be reading a poem from her book and one of their own. £1 from each book sold

will be going to Parkinson's UK.

Some words on G M Bailey:

'These poems are unearthed gems, concise and rich in crystal clarity. A treasure for any reader of poetry.'

Z D Dicks

Founder/CEO Gloucestershire Poetry Society and Gloucester Poetry Festival.

'Radiant and luminous poems written by a poet with a richly lyrical voice and more than a touch of Seamus Heaney in her vivid, earthy descriptions of rural life. Each poem is a little Eden or arcadia, seething with sensory detail and resonating with musicality. These are astonishing poems in which a dazzling use of imagery is fused with a masterful use of language and line break, in which every line, ever word, is breath-taking. Immensely beautiful and potent poetry, which remains connected to the real world whilst transcending above it.'

Anna Saunders

Cheltenham Poetry Festival Founding Director.

'Bailey shows a beautiful attention to detail in this writing. Her work boasts a crisp and observant voice that left me longing for the simplicity of youth, and her countryside descriptions had me itching to escape the city for a weekend of wonder and wilderness. This work has a rich taste to it, indeed.'

Dr Charley Barnes
Worcestershire Poet Laureate 2019-2020
Managing Director | Sabotage Reviews
Visiting Lecturer | Newman University and University of Worcester

'I wish Bailey could have read these testimonials to her talent. From the moment I read the first poem, 'Blackberry Jam' I knew we had found a jewel. Working with her words gave me goose bumps...
It is an honour to finally fix her poems in print.'

Josephine Lay
Poet in Residence at Cheltenham Library
Creative Writing Adviser Black Eyes Publishing UK

24 Platform 2 £5 Entry on Door

Oct The Station Hotel Gloucester - Thursday 19:00-22:00



Jason Conway

Jason is a passionate eco-poet, artist and designer based in Stroud, Gloucestershire. Drawing inspiration from life and the natural world, his mission is to encourage people to make a positive difference, protect nature, fight prejudice, face their fears and follow their dreams. Jason's debut collection 'Phoenix Rises' was published in 2018 and he has been published in The Blue Nib and Poetry Bus magazines.



Zoe Mitchell

Zoe Mitchell's debut collection, Hag, was published in April 2019 by Indigo Dreams; her work is concerned with the reimagining of mythology and the question for magic in modern life. Zoe is a widely-published poet whose work has been featured in a number of magazines including The Rialto, The London Magazine and The Moth. She graduated from the University of Chichester with an MA in Creative Writing and was awarded a Distinction and the Kate Betts Memorial Prize.

25 Gorilla Slam

Oct Tigers Eye Restaurant - Friday 19:00-23:00



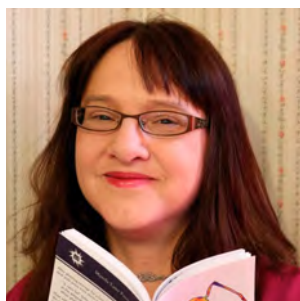
It's back, Gloucester's own annual Poetry Slam at the Tigers Eye Restaurant. Hosting the event will be the phenomenal Chloe Jacquet (@ChloeJPoetry) and the awesome Nick Lovell.

See Slam Champions perform and newcomers keen to take the title!

All are welcome.

26 Echoes

Oct Gloucester Folk Museum - Saturday 19:00-22:00



Sarah Leavesley

Sarah Leavesley (also published as Sarah James) is an award-winning poet, fiction writer, journalist and photographer, now living in Worcestershire but with family roots on the Gloucestershire/Wales border. Her poetry has featured in the Guardian, Financial Times, on the BBC and the Blackpool Illuminations, with work ranging across nature, place, the environment, family, relationships, disability and more. Her latest poetry books are *How to Grow Matches* and *Plenty-Fish* both

shortlisted in the International Rubery Book Awards. She also runs V. Press poetry and flash fiction imprint.



David Ashbee

David Ashbee has run the poetry and music group Holub for 40 years and he has been a member of The Cherington Poets for 25 years. His first collection, *Perpetual Waterfalls* was published by Enitharmon Press, followed by *Loss Adjuster* from Bluechrome. David's poems have been broadcast on BBC TV and Radio 4, and have appeared in many magazines and anthologies – including *The Oxford Book of Garden Verse*.



Sharon Larkin

Beautifully written. Sharon's poems have appeared in Prole, Ink Sweat and Tears, Snakeskin, Atrium, Obsessed by Pipework, Rat's Ass Review, Riggwelter, Clear Poetry, Amaryllis, Here Comes Everyone and elsewhere. Her poems have been anthologised by Cinnamon Press, Eyewear, Indigo Dreams, Smokestack, Fairacre Press, Mother's Milk Books, Zoomorphic and more. She is Gloucestershire's Stanza Rep, chairs Cheltenham Poetry Society and organizes

Poetry Cafe Refreshed.



Roger Turner

Roger Turner's poetry has appeared in four volumes: The Summer Palace, Six Partitas, An Italian Notebook and Landscape with Flowers. A large number of his poems have been published in magazines, including The Interpreter's House, Iota, Envoi, South, Staple, Candelabrum, Weyfarers, Israel Voices, Poetry Nottingham and Other Poetry. Roger is also the author of five non-fiction books – on landscape history and garden design, and plants. He is a former Chairman of

Cheltenham Poetry Society and he hosts Poetry Café Refreshed.



Derek Dohren

Derek Dohren has been variously described as “quirky and surreal”; as “a shark basking in a sea of words”; and as a poet who enjoys rooting out “affectation and pomposity”. He can also be described more prosaically as a bus driver, the latest profession from which he currently draws artistic inspiration.

His first poetry collection, 'Everything Rhymes with Orange' was recently published by Black Eyes Publishing UK. He is also an artist.

27 The Forest Finds its Voice

Oct Olympus Theatre - Sunday 14:30-15:30



Dick Brice

One of the best-loved forest poets and song-writers, whose song 'The Land Between Two Rivers' was the theme music for Dennis Potter's 'The Changing Forest', on BBC Radio Four. It has since become a 'Forest Anthem' having been sung by choirs from as far away as Holland and Zimbabwe. The Forest history, characters and dialect have provided material for poetry and song, from lamenting the lost world of the mines to celebrating the forest heritage.



Annie Cavill

Annie was Bard in 2009, daughter of a free miner, born in the Forest of Dean and has always written poetry. She won Bard of the Forest and has been successful in organising Junior bard for the Forest Fiddle. She runs a series of workshops with several local schools encouraging primary school pupils to write poetry.



Maggie Clutterbuck

Maggie is a forester born & bred and a well known part of the contemporary writing scene. She won the Forest Bard award in 2005, with her poem 'Tribute to a Vurrist Miner', dedicated to her father. She regularly performs her poetry in and around the Forest and last year her long-awaited second book of poetry 'Full Circle' was published by Yorkley A&E. Maggie has taught creative writing for many years at evening classes and workshops.



Keith Morgan

Keith was born in Coleford in 1942, has lived in the forest all his life and was encouraged to write by the late Harry Beddington, one of the best writers of the forest dialect. Keith's love of the Forest of Dean, its people, humour, heritage – and all that makes it special – is reflected in his work. That includes of course the sheep, the real kings of forest roads and the subject of his dialect poem 'Varest Ship'.



Carol Sheppard

Carol Sheppard is a poet and playwright who has lived in the Forest of Dean for over 20 years. She has had poetry published in literary journals, most recently Borrowed Solace and Art Ascent and exhibited in the Biggar Poetry Garden, Her play The Drop of a Pin toured Gloucestershire in 2016 and then had a two week run in New Zealand. She came runner up in the International Film Festival in 2008 with a short film script. She loves living in the Forest of Dean and it

inspires much of her poetry.

27 Villanelles Special £5 Entry

Oct The Fountain Inn - Sunday 19:00-22:30



Liz Lefroy

Liz Lefroy read as a guest on Carol Ann Duffy's 2016 Shore to Shore tour. She was winner of the 2016 Café Writers Prize, the 2011 Roy Fisher Prize, runner up in the 2017 Wigtown Poetry Competition, and highly commended in the Bridport Prize 2015. She has published three pamphlets, most recently Mending The Ordinary. Of this Gillian Clarke wrote, "This is a little book of songs: a love-song to an 85-year-old stranger, to sons, at the school concert, or shopping; poems to

places, remembered childhood, a mortally ill mother, and all in the easy voice of a natural poet.



Nicola Harrison

Singer, author, scriptwriter, performance poet and voice coach, Nicola is Lecturer in Song and Interpretation at Pembroke. She has written for radio, national newspapers and magazines and had work published in a wide number of publications from BBC History magazine to British Music and Classical Music Magazines to Resurgence and Ecologist magazine! Her directorial work focuses on the magical interface of poetry, words and music and her shows explore this

relationship in a multitude of forms, from Shakespeare's songs to the poetry and music of Federico Garcia Lorca.



Josephine Lay

Josephine Lay is a published poet with two collections of poetry; *Inside Reality* and *Unravelling*, both published by 'Black Eyes'. Josephine is currently Poet in Residence at Cheltenham Library, and she is passionate about poetry and libraries, and the vital part they both play within community. She hosts 'Squawkers'; the monthly Poetry Night at The Sober Parrot, Cheltenham, under the GPS banner. She actively supports the Cheltenham Poetry Festival and

the Gloucester Poetry Festival.



R. M. Francis

R. M. Francis is a writer from Dudley. He recently completed his PhD at the University of Wolverhampton where he is a lecturer on the Creative and Professional writing degree. He's the author of five poetry Chapbook collections: *Transitions*; (The Black Light Engine Room, 2015) *Orpheus*; (Lapwing Publications, 2016) *Corvus'* *Burnt-wing Love Balm and Cure-All*; (The Black Light Engine Room Press, 2018); *Lamella* (Original Plus Chapbooks, 2019) and *Fieldnotes from a Deep*

Topography of Dudley (Wild Pressed Books 2019). In Spring 2019 he became the inaugural David Bradshaw Writer in Residence at Oxford University.

31 Sortilege £5 Entry

Oct The Fountain Inn - Thursday 19:00-22:30



Jennie Farley

Jennie Farley is a published poet, workshop leader and teacher. Her poetry has featured in many magazines including Under the Radar, New Welsh Review, The Interpreter's House, Prole, online literary journals and been placed for awards in competitions. She founded and runs NewBohemians@CharltonKings an 'iconic arts club'. Her full collection My Grandmother Skating was published by Indigo Dreams Press (2016) followed by Hex (IDP 2018).



David Clarke

David Clarke's first pamphlet, Gaud, won the Michael Marks Award in 2013. Since then he has published two full collections with Nine Arches Press and a further pamphlet, Scare Stories, with V Press. His most recent book, The Europeans, explores European and English identities, and the relationship between the two.



Stewart Carswell

Stewart Carswell grew up in the Forest of Dean. He studied Physics at Southampton University, and has a PhD from the University of Bristol. He currently lives and works and writes in Cambridgeshire. His poems have recently been published in Envoi, The Lighthouse, The Fenland Reed, and Ink Sweat & Tears. His debut pamphlet, Knots and branches, is published by Eyewear Publishing (2016).

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'Black Eyes' Publishing from the Edge



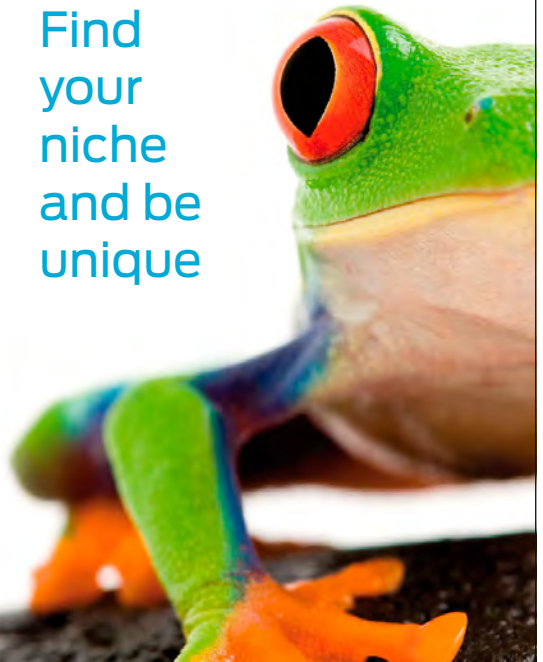
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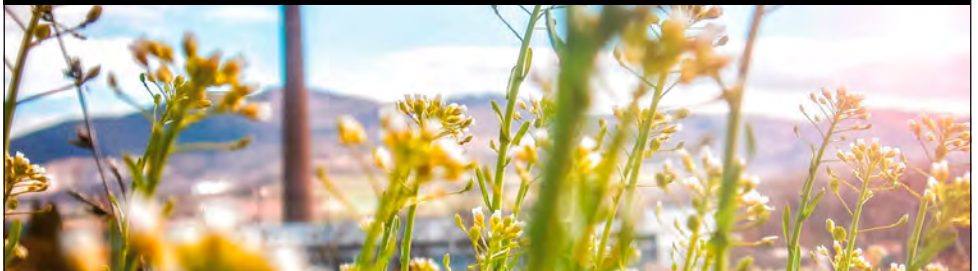


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THANK YOU

VENUES

Barewall Art Gallery, Burslem, Staffordshire
Gloucester Folk Museum, Gloucester
Gloucester Library, Gloucester
Olympus Theatre, Gloucester
The Fountain Inn, Gloucester
The Sober Parot, Cheltenham
The Station Hotel, Gloucester
Tiger's Eye Restaurant, Gloucester
Waterstones Gloucester

BUSINESSES & ORGANISATIONS

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Many thanks to everyone that gave their support and to all of our Featured Poets for performing this year.



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