



<http://www.leedscombinedarts.org.uk>



## Leeds Combined Arts Spring Newsletter 2017

### Notes from Editor

*Claire Fowles*

I had to abstain from doing the Winter 2016 newsletter as I was at the tail-end of finishing my MSc studies which have taken 5 years to complete. Thankfully a New Year spells a new chapter and I now have a little more time so I'm back to pulling the LCA newsletter together for the Spring season. This coincides with the Headingley Literature Festival offering an exciting programme of events and we have plenty of other opportunities for creative outlets for you. This includes six poetry events, ten theatre visits and activities in six other areas of programmes we offer.

### A Quick Note from the Committee

Welcome to the 'LCA Spring Newsletter'. As the light nights approach we have a variety of events on offer which we hope you'll decide to attend, along with our regular Poetry Evenings, Theatre Trips, Mind, Body, Spirit Evenings, Music events, and Weekly Book Group Meetings. Also just to remind everyone **The Headingley Lit Fest** takes place between **6<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> March** and we've included a couple of events within our programme we think members may be interested in attending. Also **The Meanwood Festival** will be taking place from **Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May and will finish with the Family Fun Day on Bank Holiday Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May**. Plans are already underway to make this the biggest and best Festival yet for people of all ages and interests, encompassing music, art, literature, heritage, drama, food and drink and they hope to beat the estimated 4000+ visitors to the Fun Day last year.

**Disclaimer: Leeds Combined Arts reserves the right to alter, cancel or amend an event when circumstances arise beyond their control. However if an event has to be cancelled or changed this will always be advertised on the web-site. Participation in any event included in this Newsletter is undertaken at the individual's own risk.**

- Poetry Evening
- Theatre Visits & Events
- Book Group
- Other Social Events
- Other Events
- Music Events
- MBS Workshops
- Walks
- Creative Arts Workshops
- AGM
- Film Visits
- Weekend Away
- Multiple events

### March

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### May

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## Poetry Evenings March – May 2017

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March 7 for 7.30 p.m. Poetry and Prose Open Mic Evening, Exhibition Hotel, Bootham, York. YO30 7BW**

Join us at the York Spoken Word Poetry Evening at the Exhibition Hotel located at the corner of Bootham and Gillygate in the Conservatory. Bring your poetry, prose monologs, music or urban primal scream. Entrance is **Free** and there is also a free buffet.

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 7.30 p.m. 'I Am Alive' (I Guess). Poetry & Music Evening, HEART.** Poetry and music about the short walk from light to the edge of darkness and back. Schwa in **Peter Spafford** on piano/vocals and **Richard Ormrod** on at least nine instruments joined by singer **Jacqui Wicks**. Here they set to music poems by Elizabeth Bishop, Emily Dickinson, Anne Sexton and Edna St. Vincent Millais, besprinkled with original text by Peter Spafford. Tickets **£5.00** are available from HEART reception in advance or on the door at HEART. ( A Headingley LitFest event).

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March 7.30 p.m. LCA Poetry & Prose Evening, HEART, Headingley.**

This evening Professor John Turner will be reading and talking about the works of Paul Verlaine and reading some of his poems. Paul Verlaine (1844–1896) is probably the best-loved poet from late nineteenth century France. His poetry is said – with some truth – to resemble Tennyson's – whom he admired – and had a huge influence on twentieth century English poetry (Yeats, Eliot, Sitwell...). He is simple, affecting, and surprisingly hard to translate.

John Turner is a prize-winning, published, and broadcast poetry translator, who has so far translated some dozens of Verlaine's works. His selection will be drawn from the full span of Verlaine's strange and chaotic life. Entrance **£3.50/£3.00** including refreshments. (Pay on the door).

**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2.30 p.m. 'In conversation with Amanda Owen', New Headingley Club, St. Michael's Road.**

Amanda Owen has been seen by millions on ITV's *The Dales* and Ben Fogle's *New Lives in the Wild* and is currently appearing on ITV1's *Country-wise*. She runs a two thousand acre hill farm in Swaledale in North Yorkshire, fifty miles from the nearest large town. She is a full shepherdess tending a thousand sheep and has nine children with farmer husband Clive. Her life is dominated by the seasons, feeding, clipping, dipping, herding, rescuing and lambing her flock in one of the most remotely beautiful yet tough spots in the country.

Amanda is a working mother with nine children between the ages of 4 months and 16 years and amazing has never taken maternity leave. As soon as she returns from hospital Amanda simply straps her new born onto her front in a waterproof onesie and heads back out to the hills to tend her sheep, with two toddlers trailing behind. Each of her nine children has been brought up this way, outside in the fresh air all day without many of the trappings of modern parenthood, walking and sleeping with the rhythm of the farm. Amanda will read from her book and will be in conversation. **All Tickets £8.00 available from HEART Reception.** Tea and cakes also available for a small donation. (This is a Headingley Lit Fest event.)

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 7.30 p.m. 'Poetry & Prose Evening' Four Poets, HEART, Headingley.**

Join us this evening for another of our 'Four Poets Evening's. Tonight we will be having a mixture of poetry and prose readings from **Peter Gray, Richard Howson, Jacqueline Zacharias** and **Emma Sutton**. We are sure they will provide an entertaining evening. Entrance is just **£3.50/£3.00** concessions and members including refreshments.

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May 7.30 p.m. HEART, Bennett Road, Headingley.** This evening will be a mixed Poetry & Prose Evening on the theme of **'Spring & Nature'**. All welcome to read throughout the evening. Entrance **£3.50/£3.00** concessions & members including refreshments.

## Theatre Visits and Events March – May 2017

We would like to welcome Emma Sutton a new volunteer who will be helping Sibylle with the Theatre Visits programme. Some of you may have already met Emma at a recent trip to the West Yorkshire Playhouse. Please add Emma's address to your address book as she will also be sending out some of the e-mails about theatre trips - [emma@leedscombinedarts.org.uk](mailto:emma@leedscombinedarts.org.uk)

### Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2017, 7.45 p.m. 'Cyrano' West Yorkshire Playhouse

A new adaptation of Edmond Rostand's romantic comedy *Cyrano de Bergerac* by Deborah McAndrew. Paris, 1640. Cyrano de Bergerac, a brilliant poet and swordsman, finds himself deeply in love with his beautiful cousin Roxane. Each day of his life is lived only for her – every poem he writes, every duel he fights. Despite his dash and his dare, Cyrano is afraid of revealing his true feelings certain she could never love him in return ... for who would love a man with such an enormous nose? All tickets **£10.50**.



### Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2017, 7.30 p.m. 'Casanova' Northern Ballet, Leeds Grand Theatre

*'Be the flame, not the moth'*

Throw caution to the wind. Be led into temptation. Unmask Casanova with Northern Ballet. Consumed by his desires, Casanova lived every minute in a whirlwind of scandal and excess. But there's more to the man. This original ballet will expose a story so sensational you won't believe it's real. This spine-tingling spectacle of 18th century decadence will flood your senses and take your breath away. All tickets **£23.75** (usual price **£47.50**)



### Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2017, 7.30 p.m. 'Romeo & Juliet' West Yorkshire Playhouse

Shakespeare's classic exploration of teenage love and violence is transformed in a vibrant new production set in an epic northern landscape. A brutal and long-standing feud between two families, the Capulets and the Montagues, is reignited in the stifling heat of a long hot summer – the air fills with rage and torment as a new generation takes up their parents' hostilities. But out of the violence grows a spark of hope, born of a single stolen moment between two star-crossed lovers from either side of the conflict. All tickets **£10.50**



### Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2017, 7.30 p.m. 'A Passionate Woman' West Yorkshire Playhouse

On the morning of her son's wedding, Betty retreats to her attic where she relives her long-lost youth and the love affair she had in the 1960s. Surrounded by her memories and ghosts from her past, Betty finds herself torn between a husband she never loved, a son about to leave, and the man she shared a passionate affair with. All tickets **£10.50**



**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2017, 7.30 p.m. 'Running Wild' West Yorkshire Playhouse**

For Lilly, going to Indonesia isn't just another holiday with mum. It's a new start, and the chance to ride an elephant called Oona. But then the tsunami hit – and Oona charges into the jungle, with her young rider desperately clinging on. All tickets **£10.00**.



**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2017, 7.30 p.m. 'Thoroughly Modern Millie' Leeds Grand Theatre**

The winner of six Tony Awards including Best Musical, Thoroughly Modern Millie is based on the 1967 Academy Award-winning film, taking you back to the height of the Jazz Age in New York City, when 'moderns' including a flapper named Millie Dillmount were bobbing their hair, raising their hemlines, entering the workforce and rewriting the rules of love. All tickets **£23.75 (usual Price £41.50)**.



**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> April, 7.30 p.m. 'La Strada' West Yorkshire Playhouse**

La Strada (The Road) is a deeply impassioned tale of love and loss, set against the backdrop of a country still reeling from the devastating effects of the second world war. Gelsomina, full of the innocent spirit of youth, is bought by Zampano, a travelling street performer, to join his 'strong man' act. When the mismatched pair meet a ragtag circus and a daredevil tight-rope walker, Gelsomina finds herself caught between the two men, not knowing which way to turn.. All tickets **£10.50**.



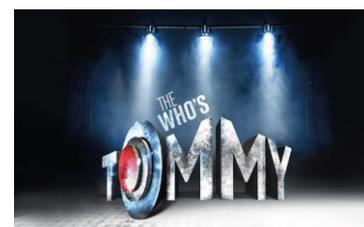
**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May, 7.00 p.m. 'Life Boat' West Yorkshire Playhouse**

A gripping true story of courage, survival and enduring friendship. In 1940 The City of Benares set sail from Liverpool for Canada. On board were 90 evacuees escaping the relentless bombing and dangers of war torn Britain. Four days into the crossing, the ship was torpedoed and sank. Only 11 of the evacuees survived. Two 15-year-old girls spend 19 terrifying hours in the water on an upturned lifeboat. They willed each other to survive. Lifeboat tells their story. All tickets **£10.50**



**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May, 7.30 p.m. 'The Who's Tommy' West Yorkshire Playhouse**

Based on one of the greatest rock operas of all time, *the Who's Tommy* is the multi-award winning musical written by Pete Townshend. Featuring all of the hits from the classic album including *I'm Free*, *Sparks*, *Amazing Journey* and, of course, the legendary *Pinball Wizard*, a cast of 22 performers and musicians recreate the story that turned **The Who** from pop group to stadium rockers, and one of biggest bands of all time. All tickets **£10.50**



**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May, 7.45 p.m. 'The Graduate' West Yorkshire Playhouse**

Iconic characters from Charles Webb's novel and the classic film are brought to life in this hilarious black comedy and moving coming-of-age story. Benjamin returns from college to high expectations of a bright future in aspirational, middle-class America. The only trouble is, the thought of that life makes him sick to his stomach. When he meets another disillusioned soul in his parents' best friend Mrs Robinson, their illicit relationship takes them on a thrillingly destructive course that threatens everyone's future happiness. All tickets **£10.50**.



If you would like to join us for any of these spring trips please send a cheque for the appropriate amount to:

'Leeds Combined Arts' HEART Centre, Bennett Road, Headingley, Leeds LS6 3HN.

Please ensure we receive all payments in good time and with the Playhouse productions 1 week in advance.

### 'Book Group' September - November 2016



#### LCA Book Reading Group

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March 3.45 p.m. 'Another Afternoon of Tea & Tales' Tree tops Centre, Shadwell Lane, Shadwell, Leeds LS17 6DP.**

Do you have a tale to tell? a short story, or essay you have written that you would like to share with others, or maybe a poem or prose piece. If so come along to Tree Tops Community Centre on Shadwell Lane on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March for our afternoon reading session. All welcome to read or just sit and listen to others. Entrance £2.50 including tea, coffee and refreshments.

**Commencing - Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 4.00 p.m. 'The Essex Serpent' by Sarah Perry.**

In Sarah Perry's second novel, 1890s London is mad about the sciences, especially palaeontology. Every six months someone publishes a paper "setting out ways and places extinct animals might live on", while smart women collect ammonites or wear necklaces of fossil teeth set in silver. New widow Cora Seagrave is patently relieved by the death of her unpleasant husband, a civil servant with "twice the power of a politician and none of the responsibility"; accompanied by her socialist companion Martha and her autistic son Francis, she leaves the capital for the wilds of Essex. There, "never sure of the difference between thinking and believing", she hears of the Essex Serpent, a folktale apparently come to life and terrorising the Blackwater estuary; and meets its spiritual adversary, the rector of Aldwinter, William Ransome, with whom she is soon entangled in a relationship of voluble opposition and unspoken attraction. This book has been chosen by member Jayne Harnett. Entrance £2.00 including refreshments.

## Mind Body Spirit Workshops September - November 2016 (All take place at The HEART Centre, Bennett Road, Headingley LS6 3HN)

**Wednesday 22 March 7.30 p.m. Talk & Slide presentation on Nepal & Walking the Annapurna Circuit with Jayne Harnett. HEART, Headingley.** Join us this evening for a slide show and presentation with LCA member Jayne Harnett. **Nepal: Trekking in the Annapurnas in April 2014 (before the big earthquake).** Jayne's talk about Nepal will cover mindfulness, body building and spirituality. The Annapurna Circuit is a 21 day trek around the Annapurna massif which circles some of the highest mountain peaks in the world. It traces the Marsyangdi River up and over the Thorung La pass (5,414 metres/17,769 ft) then descends the long gorge of the Kali Gandaki River. A personal voyage of discovery and triumph of spirit over bodily frailty. Entrance **£3.50/£3.00** (concessions & members) including refreshments.

**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> April 7.30 p.m. 'Essential Oils' with Do Terra & April Birch. HEART, Bennett Road, Headingley.**

This evening we will learn how easy it is to incorporate the powerful benefits of essential oils, to support your families' health and wellness, naturally and experience the powerful benefits of the oils. April will also be bringing some light snacks which will be flavoured for us. Entrance **£3.50/£3.00** (concessions & members) including refreshments.

**DVD on 'Electro Magnetic Frequency & Natural Energy'. Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May 7.30 p.m. HEART, Bennett Road, Headingley.**

Harry Oldfield, inventor, scientist, thinker and seeker after new and forgotten knowledge is an explorer of undiscovered realms. For more than three decades, Harry has been researching his theories about life and its meaning. This research has led him to many incredible discoveries, including that of a 'crystal-dwelling energy entity' - perhaps another form of life here with us on Earth. One of Harry's main developments has been a photo-imaging system that reveals the human energy field (aura). This has become known as PIP which stands for Polycontrast Interference Photography. He has gone on to image what might be described as 'spirit presences' in morgues while conducting experiments under the direction of a professor of pathology. But this metaphysical or paranormal aspect of Harry's work is a by-product of his wide and varied research. One of his most important areas of investigation concerns the therapeutic use of natural energy. **£3.00/£2.50** concessions & members.

MBS Workshops

MBS Workshops

## Music Events September - November 2016

**Friday March 31st 8.00 p.m. Door Open, Roots Music Gig, New Headingley Club.**

Join us for the last Friday in the month Roots music gig at New Headingley Club with two acts – The Twangles folk pop trio and Lisa Marie Glover, folk pop guitarist and singer/songwriter. Just **£6.00** (Pay on the door).

**Friday April 28<sup>th</sup> 8.00 p.m. Doors Open, Roots Music Gig, New Headingley Club.**

'The Captain of the Lost Waves'. A rare musical and theatrical treat, "... fantasy, humour and feel-good moments abound. **£8.00** on the door.

**Friday May 26th 8.00 p.m. Doors Open, Roots Music Gig, New Headingley Club.**

Stevie Williams and the Most Wanted Band. Momentous melodies, wistful thinking and insightful lyrics seamlessly blend country music with a high sense of entertainment and touches of psychedelia just add to his quirky appeal. **£7.00** (pay on the door).

Music Events

Music Events

## 'Walks' March – May 2017

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### **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> March 11.30 a.m. Walk around Calverley.**

Join us with Rob for this 6 mile walk around Calverley and Calverley Woods. The walk on Sunday 19th March will be a 5.5 mile circular taking in Apperley Bridge and Calverley, following a number of ancient tracks mostly through woodland. The meeting point will be the new Apperley Bridge railway station on the Shipley/Bradford Foster Square line. According to the internet the postcode is BD10 0FD. There is a Train scheduled to leave Leeds Station at **11.41** arriving at Apperley Bridge at **11.52**. The station has a large car park and car drivers could meet us there with a view to setting off at 11.30 across Apperley Bridge and into Calverley Woods via Parkin Lane, uphill to Calverley village and continuing via Shell Lane, Priesthorpe Road, Ravenscliffe Wood and Fagley Beck back to Calverley Woods and the old Apperley Bridge. On returning to Apperley Bridge refreshments are available at the Stansfield Arms, about 5 minutes walk from the station. Trains return to Leeds at 26 minutes past the hour (on current timetables). Please come dressed appropriately for March conditions especially as some of the woodland paths may be muddy, and with drinking water and a picnic lunch. Poetry on the theme of "The Woods" would seem appropriate. For any further information contact Rob Baker on 0113 216 4492.

### **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> April 11.30 a.m. Almscliffe Craggs.**

Join Rob for a 6 mile walk around Almscliffe Craggs from Weeton/Huby Station. There's a Harrogate line train at 10.59, passing through Burley Park at **11.04**, (then Headingley and Horsforth for anyone who lives that way) arriving Weeton at **11.20**. Please bring a packed lunch and a drink. There will be a visit to the Square and Compass for refreshments towards the end of the walk.

### **Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May 3.30 p.m. 'Meanwood & The Hollies'.**

Join Carol for this May Day Bank Holiday walk around Meanwood, The 7 Arches and The Hollies. Approximately 5.5 miles with optional food/drink at the East of Arcadia afterwards. Meet outside Waitrose in Meanwood at 3.30 p.m.

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## Other Social Events March - May 2016

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### **Quiz Night, Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March, 8.00 p.m. New Headingley Club, St. Michael's Road, Headingley, LS6 3BG**

Join us at New Headingley Club St. Michael's Road in March for a quiz night for an opportunity to play your cards right, raffle and buffet. All for £1.00 which includes a raffle ticket.

### **Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May (Spring BH) 10 – 5.00 p.m. 'Meanwood Fun Day'**

Join us at the Meanwood Fun Day at the Green space adjacent to the Myrtle Tavern. There will be a variety of stalls and entertainment. The day is for people of all ages and interests, encompassing music, art, literature, heritage, drama, food and drink and we hope to beat the estimated 4000+ visitors to the Fun Day last year. If you'd like to be involved in the Festival - performing or organising an event or if you'd like to be considered for a stall at the Fun Day, please email us at [meanwoodvp@hotmail.com](mailto:meanwoodvp@hotmail.com) or look out for more details coming soon on the dedicated website [www.meanwoodfestival.co.uk](http://www.meanwoodfestival.co.uk)

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## 'Creative and Active Programme'.

### Workshops.

We are pleased to announce a new programme of workshops will begin in May thanks to some funding from ASDA, commencing with some landscape drawing and watercolour workshops in Meanwood which will be facilitated by Tutor and Artist Rachel Hinds. The workshops will culminate with a display as part of the Meanwood Festival at **The Meanwood Fun Day** on Bank Holiday Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May between 12 & 4 p.m.. More details will be sent out by e-mail and also advertised on our web-site in April. We hope you will be able to join us!.



Workshops - 'Arts in the Environment'

Workshops - 'Arts in the Environment'

### LCA Membership Fees.

Just to remind everyone that membership fees are due on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2017. They are still good value at £8.00 & £7.00 concessions. However if you have joined within the last 3 months you will not need to renew until May 2018. A further reminder will be sent out by e-mail nearer the time.

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**We have been shortlisted for a public vote in Tesco's Bags of Help initiative so please vote for us in-store during March and April. Any funding we receive will go towards helping us to run good projects out in the community. Thank you.**

**More info here: [www.tesco.com/bagsofhelp](http://www.tesco.com/bagsofhelp)**

**If you use Twitter, and want to tweet your support, here is an sample comment:**

***.@LCA\_Headingley have been short-listed in the @Tesco\_North #BagsofHelp initiative. Vote in-store during March/April [tesco.com/bagsofhelp](http://tesco.com/bagsofhelp) (Note: the . is important!!)***