



Leeds Combined Arts Newsletter – Summer 2023

LCA Book Group



The Beckett Room, Heart Centre, Headingley LS6 3HN.

The LCA Book Reading Group meets **every Monday between 3-5 pm**. A pleasant, informal gathering with welcome refreshments!

Notable Events

- **Thursday, 22nd June:** Richard and June Smith will be attending the Lord Mayor's Civic Reception, celebrating small groups and small charities in Leeds.
- **Saturday, 1st July:** LCA will be showcasing our services at a tabletop display at **Heartfest**, an all-day event at the Heart Centre. Please come and offer your most welcome support.

Important Requests

The committee request that LCA Members kindly consider: -

- Undertaking research into a favourite topic – with a view to using it in a Performance Evening (should a speaker not arrive or cancels at the last minute).
- Joining the Committee – Specially to cover the role of Treasurer.

Performance Events

Poetry, Music, Drama & Literature Events
(HEART, Bennett Road, Headingley LS6 3HN)

All Performances begin at 7.15pm

Wednesday 21st June: A Play Reading night

Wednesday, 19th July: A lively talk given by **Cassandra James** (Senior Social Worker) on **Being a Social Worker in Leeds**

Wednesday, 20th September: an open mic session

Wednesday, 18th October: A talk by Leeds Archivist, **Vicky Grindrod**

Wednesday, 15th November: a performance of **Medieval Music** by **Peter Bull** (open Mic in the second half)

Wednesday, 20th December: Open Mic on a Christmas Theme

Entrance **£3.00** (members) **£3.50** (non-members) Refreshments included, please pay on the door.

Please Note: On Monday 3rd July, at Leeds University, **Peter Bull** will present a couple of interesting items. These are: -

From 1.00-2.00pm, at *University House: Beechgrove Room*, a talk (with some demonstrations) on *'Hammers, strings, and whistles': Musical Instruments of the Middle Ages* (There is no charge for this event.)

From 8.30-9.30pm, at *The Alec Clegg Studio (Stage@Leeds)*, performing *'The Art of the Medieval Minstrel,'* **price £12.00**, tickets are already selling well.

Both events are associated with the **International Medieval Congress** being held at Leeds University, over the period of **Monday, 3rd July to Thursday, 6th July 2023**. Details at <https://www.imc.leeds.ac.uk/imc-2023/>

Peter is co-author (with Maurice Waddle) of the recently released, ***The Psychology of Political Communication: Politicians Under the Microscope***, published by Routledge.

Walks & Outdoor Activities



Leeds Combined Arts provides monthly 'arts walks,' designed to suit people who prefer a gentle steady walk of between two and six miles. These walks are at a moderate pace and are ideal for people who would like to become fitter and enjoy walking but would not be up to doing a longer walk at a faster pace.

During the walk we usually incorporate some Poetry, Storytelling or music; and we sometimes include visits to a Stately Home or Art Gallery or other place of interest. Although these walks are of shorter length, please consider your ability when attending and always come equipped with appropriate clothing, including waterproofs, walking boots and warm clothing.

Walks

Sunday, 18th June: North Leeds, Eccup Whin – updated details provided

Tuesday, 18th July: A local Burley Park Walk – details to follow

Sunday, 16th July: Rodley Nature Reserve – details to follow

Sunday, 17th September: Golden Acre Park – details to follow

Sunday, 24th September: Day outing to Knaresborough – details to follow

Participation on any Leeds Combined Arts walk is at the individual's own risk. For further information about any walk please contact the walk leader.



WOW! (What's on Where?)

All Through the Summer: Meanwood Valley Urban Farm. A range of events for young and old. A good place to take your children or grandchildren. Details of 'what's on' can be found at <https://www.mvuf.org.uk/whats-on/>

Saturday, 8th July 4.00-1.00pm: Headingley's French Festival, <https://allevents.in/leeds/headingleys-french-festival-la-guinguette-de-la-petite-ecole/10000632832167047>

Friday 8th -Sunday 17th September: Leeds Heritage Open Days: Local Buildings of interest (and Churches) are likely to be open. See <https://www.heritageopendays.org.uk/visiting/printable-area-lists/laa/Leeds>

Other Events

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Committee News

During a meeting held on Sunday 11th June, the committee discussed a wide range of topics. Votes were taken and it was unanimously agreed that:

- To consult members about the Revised Constitution (A copy will shortly be sent to each member for their perusal)
- To give the Chairperson leave to apply for Grants
- To have a 'fun day' outing to Knaresborough
- To make minor updates to the Application Form
- To send 'Thinking of you' sympathy cards to two recently bereaved members

There is still need for a Treasurer and members to represent both the Performance Group and the Theatre Group should it be reconstituted. (Please carefully read the following message from our President)

The Committee would wish to express their warmest gratitude to LCA's Technical Consultant for his extensive and helpful contributions.

Committee Business

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A Message from Claire Rae Randall, President of LCA

Dear Members of LCA,

First, may I extend our deepest gratitude from Sibylle and myself to June and Richard Smith and all the members of the new Committee for their stout work in keeping the good ship Leeds Combined Arts afloat after a most challenging period over the last couple of years following Carol's passing.

I have been impressed with the fortitude that has been evinced, especially in establishing our ongoing good graces with the Lottery Community Fund grants body.

Having stabilised the group in recent months we are still faced with one major challenge, and that is the status of the theatre group visits. Sibylle, who ran this for nigh on a decade with nothing more than the occasional reduced-price ticket as reward for her efforts is no longer able to continue providing this service to our members, and we need to make new arrangements.

We did have some members show interest in contributing to this but unfortunately, they were unable to carry out all the arrangements for booking, collecting and distributing the tickets.

It would be a great shame if we had to let this very popular activity go. Later this year, we shall be applying for grant funding; but one of the most important aspects of this is that it is much easier to get a grant approved if a group is already carrying out an activity rather than simply projecting that it would like to do so if it had a grant to help with costs.

If we can raise some volunteers to carry out the necessary tasks for the present time, we will be placing the group in a strong position for making a grant application. Should we be able to achieve this we would hope to be able to look at some kind of recompense for the tasks that need to be carried out by volunteers, either reduced price or complementary tickets, or perhaps a stipend drawn from the grant funding that we hope to apply for successfully in due course.

I therefore need to ask our members for assistance to bridge the gap until we have received a new grant, so that in due course we would be in a position to provide recompense or reimbursement to a member or members when we have sufficient funds to provide such recompense. I hope that members will come forward to assist in keeping this activity alive. It would be a terrible shame if we lost the theatre visits for good just after we have managed to retrieve LCA from the brink. This message is being sent to all last year's members, also as a reminder that this is an opportunity to renew your membership if you have not already done so. Should you decide that you want to be taken off our mailing list and leave LCA permanently, this is also the moment when that decision can be made, your email can be deleted and you will receive no further mailings.

We look forward to hearing from you and may I wish you all a very happy summer.

Best wishes, **Claire**

Mission & Vision

(Who We Are and What We Do)

Mission Statement: LCA serves to: -

- Promote and celebrate the 'Arts' and 'Literature' in a diversity of forms, including:
 - ❖ *crafts*
 - ❖ *drawing*
 - ❖ *painting*
 - ❖ *drama*
 - ❖ *music*
 - ❖ *poetry and prose*
- Nurture and develop individual talent
- Encourage a sense of belonging and community
- Establish mutually creative relationships with other Leeds-based Community Groups

Vision Statement: LCA is seeking to form a vibrant, Leeds-based artistic and literary community, characterized by:

- An outgoing attitude, seeking to engage with the local community
- Offering a welcome to those from a diversity of backgrounds and perspectives
- Open communication between members and outside parties
- Respectful acknowledgement (or at least tolerance) of each other's views and beliefs

Means: We intend to accomplish all of the above through sound administration and effective communication with other interested parties.