



Manchester
Metropolitan
University



Manchester
Children's
Book Festival

Programme of events 2015

26th June - 5th July

Ten days of events and activities
for children, families and
anyone who has ever loved
children's books.

Featuring: Matt Brown, James Dawson,
Imtiaz Dharker, Lizzie Finlay,
Liz Kessler, Alex Scarrow, Alex Wheatle,
the Festival's Creative Director
Poet Laureate Dame Carol Ann Duffy,
and more!

FREE
FAMILY FUN DAY
Saturday 27th June

Tickets available via: www.mcbf.org.uk
or call the box office on: **0843 208 0500**



Welcome

to the 2015 Manchester Children's Book Festival

You might not have been expecting to see us again until 2016 but, due to popular demand, the Manchester Children's Book Festival is back, and now an annual event. We're really pleased to be able to bring you our 2015 programme, taking place here at Manchester Metropolitan University and in our partner venues across the city.

Our theme for 2015 is time travel, inspired by our headline book series *Compton Valance*, which sees Compton visit different time periods using his magical mouldy sandwich. Look out for Compton (and his sandwich) at our MMU Family Fun Day and at events in Manchester libraries, museums, galleries and theatres. You can also tell us where (or when) you'd like to visit in our Time Travel Comic Strip Competition.

We're proud to maintain MCBF as an event for everyone, and continue with special projects that enable the broadest possible audience to engage with literature and the arts, and provide opportunities for creative expression. The Festival is a chance to highlight the year-round work of our outreach and schools' liaison teams in the Humanities faculty at MMU; we'll be taking authors, artists and performers into classrooms, and bringing pupils into the University on our Multi-cultural Manchester day, for workshops designed to raise aspirations and confidence in young people - and inspire the festival stars of tomorrow! There'll be plenty of opportunities to meet the stars of today, too, in our programme of author events, culminating in our big Children's Poetry Weekend.

2015 is one of our most interactive programmes yet, with lots of opportunities for you to use your imagination and share your creations, whether you're writing, drawing, reading out loud ... or even dressing up! And you don't have to come to Manchester to get involved. Wherever you are in the world, you can take part in our International Reading & Writing Relay. Send us your stories, poems, drawings, photos - and keep the relay going.

We're looking forward to MCBF 2015 - and hope you can join us there.

Dame Carol Ann Duffy, James Draper and Kaye Tew
Directors of the Manchester Children's Book Festival



Creative Director

Poet Laureate Dame Carol Ann Duffy CBE OBE

Festival Directors

James Draper: Marketing & Development

Kaye Tew: Education & Partnerships

Illustrations taken from the *Compton Valance* books by Matt Brown, illustrated by Lizzie Finlay, and published by Usborne Publishing Ltd. Illustrations © 2015 Usborne Publishing Ltd. Other images credited individually where applicable.

Get involved in 2015

Reading, writing, drawing, blogging, making, dressing up

If you can't join us in Manchester for our 2015 festival, or if you simply can't wait to get creative, there are a number of ways that you can get involved and prepared before it starts.

Sign-up to our mailing list at: www.mcbf.org.uk, follow us on Twitter: @MCBFestival, and join us on Facebook: search for Manchester Children's Book Festival.

MCBF International Reading and Writing Relay

We want people across the world to be reading children's books and writing for children – and telling us about it – during the 2015 Manchester Children's Book Festival.



You can get involved wherever you are through our International Reading and Writing Relay. Tell us about what you're reading or writing, and send us your stories, poems, photographs, drawings and videos, and we'll post them up on our special Relay Blog.

The blog is for use by anyone wanting to celebrate reading and writing, or can be used if you want to share a piece of your own writing. In 2012 and 2014 the blog received visits from over 100 countries, with posts from readers and writers in Brazil, Canada, China, Egypt, Norway – and from across Manchester and the UK.

So, whether you're a school arranging an in-class reading, a parent reading a bed-time story, an adult revisiting a favourite childhood book, or a children's writer or child working on a new story – everyone can join in, if you have friends in other countries, invite them to join in, too. Go to www.mcbf.org.uk and click 'Get Involved' to download.

MCBF Time Travel Comic Strip Competition

Have you ever dreamed about time travel? Ever imagined what it would be like to go wherever you wanted and do whatever you wanted? Well, we want to hear all about it! Imagine that you, or a fictional character, have the power to travel backwards or forwards in time. How would you use your superpower? Where would you go? What would you do? Try to imagine what kinds of scary, amazing and even humorous situations you might find yourself in...

Go to www.mcbf.org.uk and click 'Get Involved' to download the entry form and use the storyboard template to create a comic strip of your adventures, using words and images to bring your character and their escapades to life. You don't have to be an artist – just make your comic strip unique, fun and exciting. Entries for the will be judged by author Matt Brown whose time travelling character Compton Vallance gets up to all sorts of adventures. The winner will have their comic strip illustrated as a full-size poster by Compton Vallance and Lizzie Finlay.



MCBF Working with Readwell

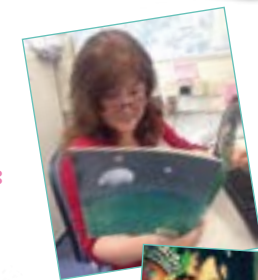
For children in hospital, books are incredibly important – they comfort, distract, reassure and entertain. Throughout the year, Readathon's hospital programme ReadWell provides brand new books and storyteller visits to cheer up children in hospital. Even children unable to leave their beds can choose books from ReadWell's specially designed bookcase and, because they are brand new, the books are safe for children at high risk of infection.

For the second year running, Manchester Children's Book Festival is fundraising to support ReadWell in Manchester Children's Hospital to brighten up the days of children during their (often prolonged) stays.

There are several ways you can help us:

- 1 Encourage your school to run a Readathon (part of the sponsorship goes directly to the hospital programme) www.readathon.org
- 2 Donate directly at www.readwell.org.uk/donate
- 3 Join our book selfie campaign:
 - Take a picture of yourself reading your favourite or current book
 - Text Read98 £2 (or chosen amount) to 70070
 - Nominate 3 friends to do the sameHere are just some of ours so far

To celebrate our partnership with ReadWell, the Manchester Children's Book Festival team will be taking Compton Vallance author Matt Brown and illustrator Lizzie Finlay into Manchester Children's Hospital on Friday 26th June for a special performance, workshop and fancy dress parade. Join us in the hospital atrium from 12-2.30pm.



MCBF Trailblazers

Saturday Spectacular Story Time: Dads and Kids Father's Day Special Age: 0-12

Story time with dad which is suitable for families with children under 5. Dads and granddads are especially welcome, with special treats for dads. Spend the afternoon making cards and presents for dads. Free family activity for families with children aged 12 and under.



Saturday 20th June
12.00- 4.00pm (story time 12 - 12.30pm)
Manchester Central Library ②
Booking not required.
For further details see:
www.manchester.gov.uk/centrallibrary

FREE

Archives +



Working and Playing with Shakespeare in the Classroom: Ben and David Crystal

Aimed at Key Stage 3 teachers but open to all

All work and no play makes Will a dull playwright. In this session, David Crystal discusses ways of working with the new *Oxford Illustrated Shakespeare Dictionary* in the classroom, and Ben Crystal shows how to play with it. The session is aimed at KS3 English teachers, KS3 Drama teachers, English curriculum co-ordinators and school librarians, but is an open event that anyone with an interest in Shakespeare or dictionaries can attend.



Tuesday 23rd June, 4.30 - 6.30pm
MMU Geoffrey Manton Building ①
Booking essential.

To book, please contact:
hollie.graham@oup.com

FREE



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For more information visit
www.co-operative.coop

The co-operative

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Young Voices:

The Active Engagement of Young People

All ages

The Manchester Centre for Youth Studies (MCYS) at Manchester Metropolitan University presents this one-day workshop. The event will focus on innovative and engaging ways of working with young people, via projects and/or research. The audience will consist of academics, practitioners and young people from the local area. We will come together to share our experiences and ideas. Speakers include, Young Advisors, Ketso and Academic staff from MMU and University of Salford.

MCYS was established in 2014 and brings together researchers from across the University – including the humanities, social sciences and education – to explore how the meanings, experiences and representations of youth have changed over time.

Our vision is to become world leaders in enabling and creating youth-informed, youth-led research which will positively impact on young people's lives and increase academic understanding.

Thursday 25th June, all day

MMU Geoffrey Manton Building ⓘ

For further information, visit:
www.mmu.ac.uk/mcys

follow @MCYS_MMU on Twitter
or contact Dr Rebecca Andrew:
r.andrew@mmu.ac.uk



“So when are you going to write for grown ups? What is the worth of creating for children?”

For adults (children welcome)



Experienced authors and industry professionals, including Julia Churchill, Jonathan Mayhew and Kate Pankhurst wrestle with the merits and the perceived value of creating Children's books.

Why is it thought of as a mere stepping stone to adult writing- a means to an end? Aren't kids' books worthwhile and important in their own right? Or is writing for children arguably more valuable than writing for adults?

The Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators (SCBWI) presents this lively panel discussion. Attendees are welcome to stay on and attend the Official 2015 Festival Opening Event for no additional charge.

Friday 26th June, 5.00 - 6.00pm

MMU Geoffrey Manton Building ⓘ

Tickets: £11/£5.50 for SCBWI members

Book on 0843 208 0500 or via:
www.mcbf.org.uk

Friday 26th June

Festival Programme

Dame Carol Ann Duffy presents the Official 2015 Festival Opening Event

Poet Laureate Dame Carol Ann Duffy, Creative Director of the Manchester Children's Book Festival, will officially open the 2015 Festival. This gala occasion hosted by Manchester Metropolitan University will feature poetry from Carol Ann, with music provided by the Manchester Youth String Orchestra under the direction of Kate Moran and Chris Mansfield ... and magical entertainment!



For adults
(children welcome)

6.00 - 8.00pm

MMU Geoffrey Manton
Building ⓘ

Tickets: £5.50

(free for Friends of the
Festival and their guests -
see page 41 for details)

Book on 0843 208 0500 or
via www.mcbf.org.uk

Festival family fun day

A full programme of activities for the Family Fun Day will be posted on the MCBF website as the Festival approaches!

Saturday 27th June

The Manchester Children's Book Festival welcomes everyone to the 2015 Festival Family Fun Day – a full Saturday of free activities at Manchester Metropolitan University's All Saints Campus (on Oxford Road). Come along and join the fun – there'll be something for everyone, from pre-readers and nursery age-children to teens and families. And, as well as story-telling, arts, crafts and workshops, there'll be a bustling market-place of stalls and exhibitions to browse and enjoy.



★ Would YOU eat a mouldy sandwich? Investigate with our ManMetMunch nutrition scientist and microbiologist and make your decision... microscopy, mould, models and more!

★ Hydrogen can provide power to big things like buildings, or little things like phone chargers – and even power remote controlled cars! Come and find out how and race our hydrogen-powered remote controlled cars around our fastest lap track.

★ Visit the ReadWell stall and support our efforts to raise money for Manchester Children's Hospital School – as well as knitted Compton you might find some old friends...



★ Join Manchester Libraries and Archives+ as we look forward to the launch of this year's summer reading challenge for children.

★ The Little People's History Museum: help Mr Ordinary and his friends search for his stolen thinking and doing using interactive puppets, song and dance.

★ Make a *Monkey!* badge with the team from Z-arts.

★ Take a trip back in time, explore life as a football fan in the past. Try on some football fan attire or handle fan's treasured possessions with staff from the National Football Museum.

★ Find out about Ordsall Hall and how you can have your own time-travelling adventure on a visit there. Meet our Tudors and make your own pennon to wave in the parade!

★ Special Blackwell's Bookshop. Atrium Café. Baby change and feeding facilities.

★ Join Manchester School of Art for an exhibition of work from their Saturday club and create your own time travel rosette.

★ Come and say hello to Little Alf the miniature pony.

★ Have your picture drawn, or be transformed into an animal, in the magical portrait booth.

★ Create your very own elephant ears and see some objects from Manchester Museum's collections.

★ MMU children's writers have produced picture book texts which need illustrations - come to the stall and add your drawings!

★ Draw! Write! Make! Create! with our friends from the Society of Children's Books Writers and Illustrators.

★ Learn how to turn old household rubbish it into exciting stuff with Junkcraft.

★ Aliens Love Underpants: create colourful items for a washing line with the Lowry.

★ Blitz Brits crafts with Imperial War Museum.

★ Take a trip through time and space to create your own alien character with the Royal Exchange Theatre.

★ Space and art: send your drawings into space with our MMU astronauts!



Car Parking

Visitors to the Festival Family Fun Day will have access to free parking (subject to availability) at Manchester Metropolitan University John Dalton car park on Chester Street between 10am and 5pm on Saturday 27th June 2015. There is additional on-road and multi-storey parking around the All Saints campus, which must be paid for:

10.00am - 4.00pm

MMU Geoffrey Manton Building

Book on 0843 208 0500 or via www.mcbf.org.uk

The Fun Day will also feature a range of special author events for which tickets must be purchased (see pages 10 - 12 for details).



Saturday 27th June

Family fun day

Manchester Children's Book Festival Travelling Story-Telling Tent

Working with ReadWell to put books onto shelves at Manchester Children's Hospital School, our Manchester Children's Book Festival story-telling tent has been on tour but is coming home for the Family Fun Day. Drop in to our full-day programme of interactive story-telling for children of all ages and in a host of different languages with guest authors and performers and their puppet friends. You might even meet some of your favourite characters and celebrity guests!



SCBWI presents: Kate Pankhurst

Calling all Young Super Sleuths!

Come face to face with a Ghostly Guinea Pig and a Spaghetti Yeti (if you dare) with author and illustrator Kate Pankhurst as she investigates the totally mysterious world of Mariella Mystery (totally cool detective aged nine and a bit, no mystery too mysterious, no problem too perplexing).

Expect drawing, dressing up and excessive amounts of inspiration for writing and illustrating your own mystery stories.

This message will self-destruct in five ... four ... three...



Lizzie Finlay: Compton Valance Illustration Workshop

Learn to draw disgusting, mouldy sandwiches, buzzing flies and all of your favourite *Compton Valance* characters with special ink flicking, dip pens.



Time Travel Fancy Dress Parade

Join our *Compton-Valance*-inspired time travel fancy dress parade. Dress up as someone from your favourite point in history - or imagine the future! You'll be able to make hats and costumes on the day, too, so no excuse for not joining in. Join us at the meeting point in the Family Fun Day main atrium at 1pm.



All ages
10.30am-3.30pm



MMU Geoffrey Manton Building ①

All day - drop in!

Story time with our friends including Ahmed Iqbal Ullah Trust, Commonword, Junkcraft, National Football Museum, People's History Museum and Royal Exchange Theatre.

Age 7+
10.30-11.30am

MMU Geoffrey Manton Building ①

Tickets: £3.50 (£2.50 for SCBWI members)

Book on 0843 208 0500 or via www.mcbf.org.uk

Age 8+
11.30am - 12.30pm

MMU Geoffrey Manton Building ①

Tickets: £5.50 per child (accompanying adults go free)

Book on 0843 208 0500 or via www.mcbf.org.uk

All ages
1.00 - 1.30pm

MMU Geoffrey Manton Building ①



This event is presented in partnership with the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators - the international professional organisation for writers and illustrators of children's literature.



Saturday 27th June

Family fun day

Age 8+

1.30 - 2.30pm

Geoffrey Manton Building ①

Tickets: £3.50

Matt Brown: Compton Valance: The Most Powerful Boy in the Universe

When Compton Valance and his best friend Bryon Nylon discover the world's first time machine (aka a mouldy, thirteen-week-old sandwich), they become the most powerful boys in the universe. But now notorious criminal and mega-baddy the Master of Time has escaped from prison so Compton and Bryon must travel six hundred years into the future to join a Top-Secret-Academy.



Do YOU have what it takes to be an agent of the F.A.R.T. Academy? Matt Brown, author of the hilarious *Compton Valance* series, will put you through your paces – from finding out your agent identity to code breaking and a quickfire quiz. Will you pass the time travel test to join Compton and Bryon and help them save the universe?



MCBF Manchester Children's Book Festival



SCBWI presents: Steve Hartley

Steve Hartley is many things: author, astronaut, spy, trapeze-artist and vampire-hunter. His hobbies include puddle-diving, and hamster-wrestling, and he never, EVER tells fibs.



Steve's hilarious show will contain some (or none) of the following: top-tips for writing stories, awesome acting, a game show, a superhero, and a huge pair of knickers. It will definitely contain readings from his prize-winning *Oliver Fibbs* series of books, and the biggest, fattest fibs you've ever heard – honest!



Age 7+

2.30 - 3.30pm

MMU Geoffrey Manton Building ①

Tickets: £3.50 (£2.50 for SCBWI members)

Book on 0843 208 0500 or via www.mcbf.org.uk

This event is presented in partnership with the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators - the international professional organisation for writers and illustrators of children's literature.

SCBWI presents: Ruth Fitzgerald

Emily Sparkes and the Competition Calamity – the second in the very funny *Emily Sparkes* series and this time Emily has accidentally entered her mother into a competition to find the nation's 'Mum in a Million'. When Mrs Sparkes is shortlisted, Emily is more shocked than anyone! Desperate not to be publicly humiliated on TV, she has to come up with a plan for a mum makeover. Because her eco-warrior, allotment-loving parent can't make her star appearance in a granddad-cap and wellies – can she?



Join author Ruth Fitzgerald and Wavey Cat to talk about disasters and fiascos and all things *Emily Sparkes*. Learn to make origami cats and rats and enter our fun competition (which is definitely not going to be a calamity...). Ruth is a graduate of the Manchester Writing School at MMU's Online MA in Writing for Children.



Age 7+

3.30 - 4.30pm

MMU Geoffrey Manton Building ①

Tickets: £3.50 (£2.50 for SCBWI members)

Book on 0843 208 0500 or via www.mcbf.org.uk

This event is presented in partnership with the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators - the international professional organisation for writers and illustrators of children's literature.

Sunday 28th June

Ages 3+

10.00am - 4.00pm

Royal Northern College of Music ③

Tickets: £5.00

Admission for children is FREE, by ticket only, accompanied by an adult.

Book through the RNCM box office on 0161 907 5555 or via www.rncm.ac.uk

Royal Northern College of Music Family Day: Musical Tales

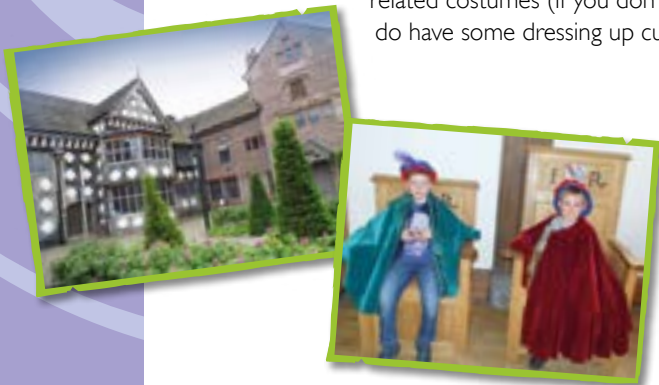
For their summer Family Day our neighbours the Royal Northern College of Music are delighted to be joining forces with Manchester Children's Book Festival to bring you a feast of music and stories for all ages. Join us for an interactive day of creative activities, talks from children's authors, storytelling, face-painting and live music that will have you tapping your feet all the way home.



Ordsall Hall Family Book Day

Come along for your own trip through time at Ordsall Hall's Family Book Day!

Do a self-portrait of yourself as a time traveller to add to our Big Picture of the Hall. Meet some real life Tudors inside the House and visit our WWI gardeners who will be working outside on the heritage allotment. Join Salford Imagination Library for some special themed crafts and activities and design your own Tudor pennon or flag. You're welcome to come in book- or time-travel-related costumes (if you don't have any we do have some dressing up cupboards)!



Flicker and the Flying Books

No one is interested in the little bookcase in the corner - they have far more important things to do. Then, one day, the magical Flicker starts throwing books from the shelves and flicking through pages. Soon there is mayhem and chaos as a whole host of story-trouble comes tumbling out to charm and disrupt everybody's ordinary lives.

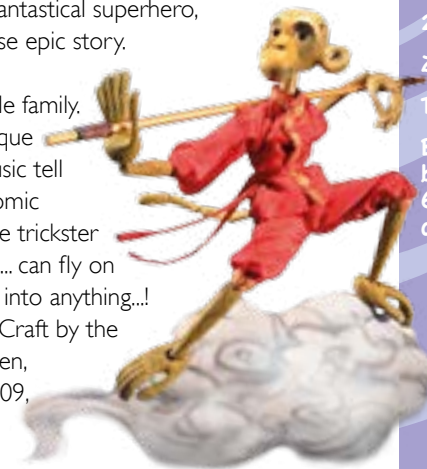
Flicker and the Flying Books has been created by members of the Royal Exchange Theatre's two community Companies - the Young Company (aged 14-21) and the Elders' Company (aged 60+). Directed by Andrew Barry.



PuppetCraft Presents: Monkey!

The comic adventures of a fantastical superhero, inspired by the classic Chinese epic story.

A puppet show for the whole family. Stunning string puppets, antique shadow puppets and live music tell the story of the birth and comic escapades of MONKEY ... the trickster who ... hatched from an egg ... can fly on a cloud ... and can transform into anything...! Written specially for PuppetCraft by the wonderful poet Michael Rosen, Children's Laureate 2007-2009, of *Going on a Bear Hunt* fame.



Ages 3-8

1.30 - 3.00pm

Royal Exchange Theatre ⑥

FREE but booking essential. For additional information and to book for all performances call the Royal Exchange Box Office on 0161 833 9833



All Ages

1.00-3.30pm

Ordsall Hall ④

Booking not required - just drop in

On-site parking available: £2 for three hours.



Ages 4+

2.30 - 3.30pm

Z-arts ⑤

Tickets: £8 (£6 concession)

Book through the Z-Arts box office on 0161 232 6089 or via www.z-arts.org

Monday 29th June

FREE

Mother Tongue, Other Tongue: Regional and National Celebration

The National Mother Tongue Other Tongue Celebration Event will take place on Monday 29th June 2015 at Manchester Metropolitan University. There will be exciting cultural activities such as Arabic Dancing and Asian Drumming, some tasty food, and all the winners will be invited to perform their poems. We will also have some very special guests to present the prizes!

Mother Tongue, Other Tongue is a national Laureate Education Project, led by the Poet Laureate, Dame Carol Ann Duffy and launched by British Boxer, Amir Khan. The competition is co-ordinated by Routes into Languages.

There are two separate parts to the poetry competition. Children from Year 4 to Year 13 can enter one or both parts of the competition. The Mother Tongue part of the competition requires children who do not have English as a first language, or who speak a different language at home, to share a lullaby, poem or song from their Mother Tongue. They then write a short piece in English to explain the poem's significance to them. The Other Tongue part of the competition encourages children learning another language in school to use that language creatively to write a poem.

The closing date to enter the competition in the North West is 1st June 2015. For further details see: www.mtot.org.uk.

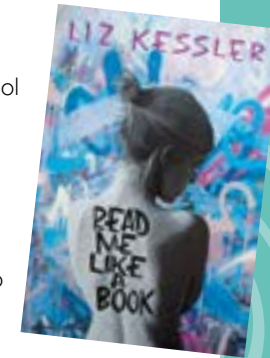
Dame Carol Ann Duffy presents Liz Kessler's Read Me Like a Book

Publishing books for teens and young adults that focus on lesbian and gay characters was once risky business but recent years have seen advances in equality and inclusion in the UK with many more representations and celebrations in literature for young readers. Liz Kessler's *Read Me Like a Book* tells the compelling story of 17-year-old Ashleigh Walker, a young woman coming to terms with her identity and sexuality when she experiences feelings for her female English teacher.

Read Me Like a Book was the novel Liz wrote while studying in the Manchester Writing School at Manchester Metropolitan University – and it's been a long time coming out. Dame Carol Ann Duffy – Director of the School – will be welcoming guests and introducing Liz, who'll be reading from what she describes as "the most important book I've written". Liz will also be in conversation with MMU's Andy Moor discussing key issues around youth in relation to lesbian and gay identity – and the freedoms and limitations faced by young adult writers tackling these topics today.

The Manchester Children's Book Festival and Orion Children's Books are delighted to welcome Liz back to the city where it all began for a special evening celebrating her success – and the journey of *Read Me Like a Book* from project put nervously aside to out-and-proud, highly-acclaimed novel. Join Dame Carol Ann and Liz at the iconic Portico Library to mark the occasion.

Ages 13+
6.00- 8.00pm
Portico Library ⑦
Tickets: £3.50
Book on 0843 208 0500 or via www.mcbf.org.uk



Ages 8-18
10.00am - 4.00pm
MMU Geoffrey Manton Building ①
To book, contact mtot@mmu.ac.uk or go to www.mtot.org.uk

Tuesday 30th June

Ages 10 - 18

AM and PM options

MMU Geoffrey Manton Building ①

Tickets: Ranging from £5 per pupil for a single performance to £15 for a full-day package (accompanying teachers go free).

For a full programme of sessions, and to request a booking form, please contact HLSS Schools' Liaison at MMU on: hlsschools@mmu.ac.uk

Multi-cultural Manchester

Manchester Metropolitan University's main schools' event for the Manchester Children's Book Festival is a celebration of Multi-cultural Manchester, with exhibitions, performances and taster-sessions exploring the music, poetry, language, food, literature and culture of some of the nationalities represented in our city. School groups are invited to book on for three-hour, half-day sessions, either AM or PM, and select from a workshop carousel that features contributions from cultural partners from across the city and some of our favourite writers, artists and performers.

AM: 10am - 1pm (includes 2 x 45 minute workshops, or 1 workshop plus 1 performance); aimed at ages 10 - 16 and featuring performances from the People's History Museum Living History programme about migration.

PM: 12 - 3pm (includes 2 x 45 minute workshops, or 1 workshop plus 1 performance); aimed at ages 12 - 18 with a performance featuring poets Mandy Coe, Imtiaz Dharker and Carol Ann Duffy. This performance is supported using public funding by the National Lottery through Arts Council England.

Both sessions overlap from 12 - 1pm to allow for exploration of the cultural marketplace, involving performances, an interactive exhibition and food/drink tasters.



Alex Wheatle

We're delighted to welcome performance poet and novelist Alex Wheatle to Manchester for this special event. He'll be introducing his first novel for young adults, *Little Bit*, which tells the story of 14-year-old Lemar, the second shortest boy in his year, who's told he has no chance with girls, has a hassled mother and frustrated sister, and who just wants to do anything to make life better – including using his art skills to get a date – but who finds himself on track to something sinister when gang war breaks out on his estate...

Full of humour and friendship, as well as family issues and tough choices, *Little Bit* is an honest and engaging story of urban teen life with a hopeful message that everyone has a talent that can help them achieve their dreams.

Alex works with the Booktrust and the Children's Discovery Centre to promote reading, and regularly delivers workshops in schools across the country, inspiring students with his passion for literature. He was awarded an MBE for his services to literature in 2008.

We're delighted to welcome Alex to the Manchester Children's Book Festival, where he'll be reading from and talking about his work – and meeting the audience to sign books after the event.

Ages 12+

4.00 - 6.00pm

Moss Side Powerhouse Library ⑧

Tickets: £3.50

Book on 0843 208 0500 or via www.mcbf.org.uk



Supported using public funding by
ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND



Wednesday 1st July

FREE

Tiny Tots and Toddler Time

Join us for an extra special Tiny Tots and Toddler Time in the Manchester Children's Book Festival storytelling tent.



Sam & Mark

TV presenters and now authors Sam Nixon and Mark Rhodes – better known as "Sam & Mark" – will be launching their first children's book, *The Adventures of Long Arm*, at the 2015 Manchester Children's Book Festival.

When Ricky Mitre, a young boy who is always in trouble, accidentally gets his arm stuck down the U-bend of the staff toilet and emerges with a super long arm, his adventures as a brand-new "superkid" are just beginning.

We're delighted to welcome Sam & Mark to Manchester for this special Festival event. Meet the duo and hear more about the adventures of Ricky and his best friend Sam – and maybe also a little bit about two other best friends, who've had some pretty impressive adventures.



Ages 0-5

10.30 - 11.30am

Manchester Central Library ②

Booking not required

Ages 8+

2.00 - 4.00pm

MMU Geoffrey Manton Building ①

Tickets: £3.50

Book on 0843 208 0500 or via www.mcbf.org.uk



FROM NURSERY TO SIXTH FORM ages 0-18

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Open Morning

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9.30am-1.00pm

Alternatively, you can arrange your own personal tour of the School by calling us.

Contact: 01204 840201 info@boltonschool.org
www.boltonschool.org



Eversheds LLP

A law firm that believes diversity is strength

We are delighted to be supporting this year's Manchester Children's Book Festival.

Eversheds is one of the world's largest full service law firms with over 4,000 people including over 2,100 legal advisers. Our network of 55 offices across Europe (including Manchester), the Middle East and Asia provides the highest quality of legal services to clients from across the globe. Our clients are increasingly looking to us, because of our in depth knowledge of local legal markets and international trade, to support their international expansion.

Eversheds' vision is to be the most client centred international law firm. We believe in continuously improving our service. Our intelligent approach to the law involves an ongoing quest for new solutions and new ways of doing things that save our clients time and money.

For more information please contact:

Diane Gilhooly
Partner, Human Resources Practice Group
Tel: 0845 497 8151
dianegilhooly@eversheds.com

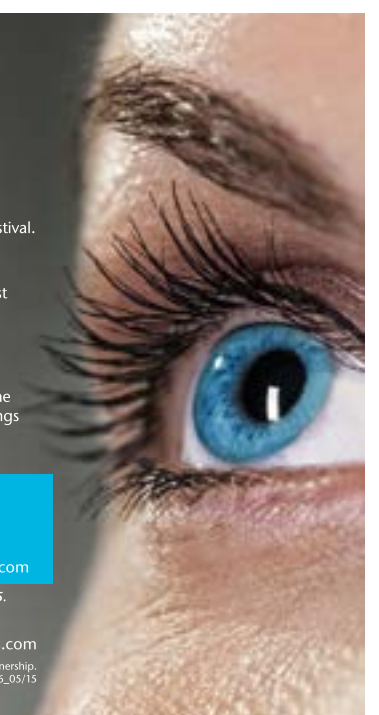
Michael Clavell-Bate
Partner, Manchester Senior Office Partner
Tel: 0845 497 8221
michaelclavell-bate@eversheds.com

Eversheds LLP – winners of the Large law firm of the Year – Manchester Legal Awards 2015.



www.eversheds.com

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Thursday 2nd July

Manchester Libraries Summer Reading Challenge Launch

We're launching this year's Record Breaking themed Summer Reading Challenge with popular children's author and funny man, Steve Hartley. Steve was ahead of the game, writing his series of books, *Danny Baker Record Breaker*, years before it was chosen as a theme for this popular national reading challenge. Children can join the challenge to read six books over the summer holidays at any Manchester library.



Danny Baker wants to be the best in the world at something – anything – and he doesn't care how stinky, sticky, itchy, slimy, noisy, or grubby he gets on his way to becoming a Record Breaker!



Archives+

Archives+ Drop-in

Archives+ materials will be on display from 4 - 6pm. Drop-in and view some of our extensive resources. Open to all, no booking required.



Archives+

Alex Scarrow

The main theme of the 2015 Manchester Children's Book Festival is time travel and we're delighted to include this special event with the creator of the best-selling *TimeRiders* series, Alex Scarrow.

TimeRiders follows the adventures of Liam, Maddy and Sal, recruited by an agency that no one knows exists with only one purpose: to fix broken history – to travel back in time to change the past.

TimeRiders has been published in more than 30 countries, was a RedHouse Awards, Catalyst Awards, and Hampshire Book winner, and a finalist for Galaxy Children's Book of the Year.

We're delighted to welcome Alex to the Manchester Children's Book Festival, where he'll be reading from and talking about his stories – and meeting the audience to sign books after the event.



Archives+



Ages 7 - 11

Sessions throughout the day

Manchester Central Library

If you would like to bring your class to this special author event at Central Library, please contact Manchester Central Library on 0161 234 1926 or c.pridgeon@manchester.gov.uk

FREE

All ages

4 - 6pm

Manchester Central Library

Booking not required

FREE

Ages 11+

6.00- 8.00pm

Manchester Central Library

Tickets: £3.50

Book on 0843 208 0500 or via www.mcbf.org.uk

Saturday 4th July and Sunday 5th July

FREE

All ages

10.00am - 4.00pm

Manchester Central Library ②, Waterstones Manchester Deansgate ⑫, Urmston Bookshop ⑪ and Simply Books ⑩

Booking not required - just drop-in!

MCBF Children's Poetry Weekend: Let in the Stars ... of Children's Poetry

Poet and educator Mandy Coe came to the Manchester Writing School in late 2013 on a mission. Troubled by a decline in the number of publishers launching new poetry for children, and the lack of opportunities for writers of children's poems to reach an audience in print, she made a strong case for Children's Poetry having a place on bookshelves everywhere.

Inspired by Mandy's passion, Carol Ann Duffy and the Manchester Children's Book Festival team launched an international search for the best new poetry written for children. Thousands of poems were submitted and the work of 30 poets - based in the UK, Australia, Canada, Ireland, Uganda, and the USA - was selected by Mandy, Imtiaz Dharker and Philip Gross, and collected into a beautifully illustrated anthology: *Let in the Stars*.

We'll be celebrating poetry for children by letting its stars into Manchester on the weekend of Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th July. We'll be taking over city centre venues Manchester Central Library and Waterstones Manchester Deansgate for two full days of readings and activities. Drop in to see children's poetry stars performing their work around the building and join in arts and crafts. There'll also be open floor slots, so you can come along and read a poem, too.

Poets who'll be taking part include Dominic 'Dommy B' Berry, Mandy Coe, Chrissie Gittins and Robert Paul Weston. For details of their individual events, see pages 26, 27 and 30.

We'll also be inviting bookshops, libraries, schools and reading groups to set up their own children's poetry events across the city and beyond. Ask your bookshop or library if they want to help let in the stars by arranging or hosting an event, or putting on a display of children's poetry from their stock. To find out more and access resources, go to www.mcbf.org.uk and click 'Get Involved'.

Now, we want you to take up our challenge, honour the poetry that inspired you to read and write as a child, and help us to let in the stars of children's poetry.



Adopt a Poem

In your school or work place, or at home, choose a poem and start the day by reading it together. If you're in a class or group, ask everyone to choose a poem of their own, too.

Share a Poem

Set up your own events and read poetry for children out loud. You can perform your own poems or some by your favourite writers. We can send you some bookmarks and posters to help you advertise your event and get started - just get in touch at mcbf@mmu.ac.uk and let us know what you're planning.

Create a Poem

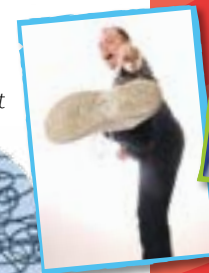
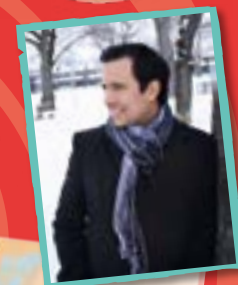
If you've been inspired by poetry that you've read or that you remember, why not use that as inspiration to write your own? You can start from scratch with your own ideas or use the opening line of your favourite poem, or a new one that someone has shared with you, as a starting point.

Post a Poem

Let us know what you've adopted, shared or created by sending us photos and videos and writing about it on our Reading and Writing Relay blog (see page 2), posting on our 'Manchester Children's Book Festival' Facebook group or Tweeting @MCBfestival.

We're delighted to announce that *Let in the Stars* has been short-listed for the 2015 Centre for Literacy in Primary Education (CLPE) Poetry Award.

"This powerful collection of moving, clever and funny work sends an important message that poetry written for children must be taken seriously, must be cherished and must be made available. It is my hope that others will follow the example... seeking out, collecting and celebrating the best new poems in beautiful books like Let in the Stars, which can be picked up and loved by the next generation of readers and writers." Carol Ann Duffy on *Let in the Stars*.



This project is supported using public funding by the National Lottery through Arts Council England.

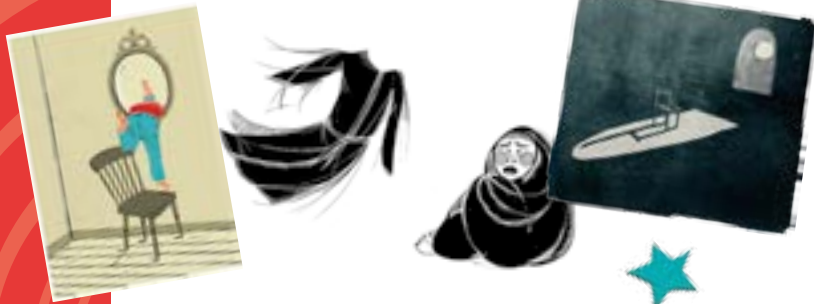


Saturday 4th July

FREE

Adopt a Poem with Mandy Coe at Urmston Bookshop

Children from local schools have been voting on their favourite poems, illustrating them and being inspired to write new ones. Drop into the shop all day to view our *Let in the Stars* exhibition and to tell us what your favourite poem is. Poet Mandy Coe will be here from 11am-12pm for a very special event to celebrate the new and adopted poetry.



All ages
10.00am - 4.00pm
Urmston Bookshop ⑩
Booking not required - just drop in

Create a Poem with Mandy Coe at Simply Books

Create a poem with Mandy Coe at Simply Books in Bramhall. Drop into the shop anytime during the day to contribute your ideas for a special Manchester Children's Book Festival poem inspired by your experience of Simply Books – whether as a regular customer or perhaps just an occasional visitor! You can add your ideas on our 'graffiti wall' upstairs or tweet them to @simplybooksNo1. Poet Mandy Coe will be here to work your suggestions into a poem and, at 3pm, she'll be reading some of her own poetry.



All ages
10.00am - 4.00pm
Simply Books ⑪
Booking not required - just drop in

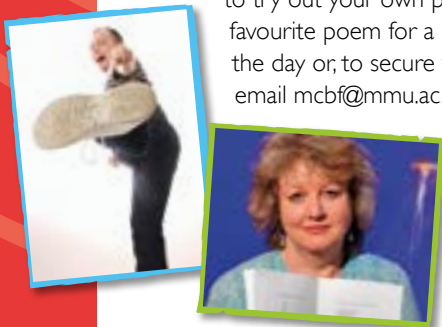
FREE

All ages
1.00 - 2.00pm
Manchester Central Library ⑫
Booking not required - just drop in

FREE

Share a Poem with Dominic Berry and Chrissie Gittins

Poetry is for sharing, so we've invited poets Dominic Berry and Chrissie Gittins to perform and host a children's poetry open mic event at Manchester Central Library. Poets of all ages are invited to bring along their poems and join the party. If you want to try out your own poetry for children, or read your favourite poem for a child, come along and join in on the day or, to secure your place on the programme, email mcbf@mmu.ac.uk with 'Open Mic' in the subject line to book a slot. Please note: reading opportunities are limited and will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.



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Saturday 4th July

FREE

Age 3 - 8

11.00am - 12.00pm and
2.30 - 3.30pm

Manchester Central
Library ②

FREE but booking essential

For additional information
and to book for all
performances call the
Royal Exchange Box Office
on 0161 833 9833

Flicker and the Flying Books

No one is interested in the little bookcase in the corner – they have far more important things to do. Then, one day, the magical Flicker starts throwing books from the shelves and flicking through pages. Soon there is mayhem and chaos as a whole host of story-trouble comes tumbling out to charm and disrupt everybody's ordinary lives.



Flicker and the Flying Books has been created by members of the Royal Exchange Theatre's two community Companies - the Young Company (aged 14-21) and the Elders' Company (aged 60+). Directed by Andrew Barry.



Going to the Match Family Tours

Travel back in time and explore the sights, smells and sounds of match day in the past, dress up and get your hands on real museum objects.

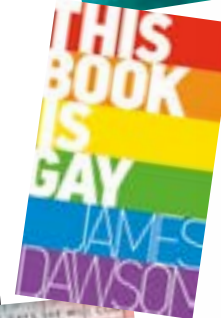


James Dawson

We're delighted to welcome James Dawson to Manchester for this special Festival event.

James is the author of teen thrillers *Hollow Pike*, *Say Her Name*, *Cruel Summer* and his new novel *Under My Skin*. His non-fiction includes *Being a Boy*, which takes a frank and funny approach to puberty, sex and relationships, and *This Book is Gay*, an inclusive and uncensored look at what it's like to grow up LGBT. He has previously worked as a teacher, specialising in PHSCE and behaviour, and his work has been translated into more than ten languages. James is the reigning UK Queen of Teen and was appointed a Stonewall School Role Model in 2014.

We're delighted to welcome James to the Manchester Children's Book Festival, where he'll be reading from and talking about his work – and meeting the audience to sign books after the event.



Waterstones



Ages 12+

2.30 - 4.00pm

Waterstones Manchester
Deansgate ⑫

Tickets: £3.50

Book on 0843 208 0500 or
via www.mcbf.org.uk

All Ages

FREE

11.15am, 12.15pm
and 1.15pm

National Football
Museum ⑨

Booking not required
- just drop in

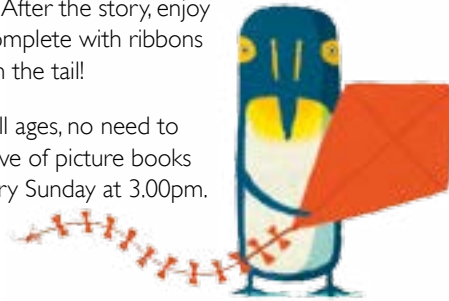
Sunday 5th July

Sunday Storytime at Waterstones Manchester Deansgate

Join us for our regular Sunday Story Time at 3.00pm when we will enjoy reading *Blown Away* by Rob Biddulph, winner of this year's Waterstones Children's Book Prize. We meet Penguin Blue on a windy day, and he has a brand new kite - but where's he going on this maiden flight? Penguin Blue and his friends go on a gloriously illustrated adventure full of good friends, new places and the perils of kites! After the story, enjoy making a paper kite complete with ribbons and arctic creatures on the tail!

Free and suitable for all ages, no need to book. We share our love of picture books both new and old every Sunday at 3.00pm. Everyone welcome.

Waterstones



Rhyme & Reason: Letting in the Stars with Mandy Coe & Robert Paul Weston

Poetry for children doesn't always have to be short, it doesn't always have to rhyme, it doesn't have to be funny ... Robert Paul Weston's novel *Zorgamazoo* is pretty long, it rhymes and it is very funny - is it a novel? Is it poetry? Visit www.zorgamazoo.com to meet *Zorgamazoo's* beautifully illustrated characters and see ways in which this novel in rhyme can inspire children's writing in schools. Mandy Coe's passion for poetry is evident in her own writing and also in her passion for other people's. Mandy will read from her books and talk about what makes poetry poetry and what makes poetry brilliant.

Join Mandy and Robert for an afternoon of wonderful poetry to officially close this year's Manchester Children's Book Festival. This event will also have a short open-mic section. If you want to try out your own poetry for children, or read your favourite poem for a child, come along and join in on the day or, to secure your place on the programme, email mcbf@mmu.ac.uk with 'Open Mic' in the subject line to book a slot. Please note: reading opportunities are limited and will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.



Waterstones



FREE

FREE

Ages 3 - 7

3.00pm

Waterstones Manchester Deansgate ⑫

Booking not required - just drop in

All Ages

3.00- 4.00pm

Waterstones Manchester Deansgate ⑫

Booking not required - just drop in



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f t

MIGRATING PASSIONS

A new cross curricular project devised by MMU's Humanities, Languages & Social Science Schools' Liaison in association with the Manchester Children's Book Festival, which aims to celebrate cultural diversity by collecting stories about how Great Britain has been enriched by the traditions, skills and ideas that migrants have brought with them.

For further details about workshops and our new competition for school pupils, contact hsschools@mmu.ac.uk

Families AT THE LOWRY



Come and visit us at the Family Fun Day, to find out about our family shows, activities and our Family Arts Festival, along with taking part in fun activities and competitions.

thelowry.com/family



Find out more about our Family Festival at familyfestival.org.uk

Schools' Programme

We passionately believe that creativity should be at the heart of every child's education and are committed to ensuring that as many children and young people as possible, from across Greater Manchester and beyond, can take part in the Manchester Children's Book Festival.



Our extensive schools' outreach programme, delivered under the banner of "Walking in their

Shoes" and managed by Schools' Liaison Coordinator Claudia Conerney in the Faculty of Humanities, Languages & Social Science at Manchester Metropolitan University, ensures that we do exactly that.

Supported by university funding, with additional income from ticket sales and commercial sponsorship, we are able to send major authors out into schools and libraries across the city, so that every child can meet their literary heroes.



To guarantee that absolutely anyone can get involved in MCBF, our International Reading and Writing Relay provides a platform for any young person or school wishing to use it to post reviews or blogs about author visits to schools, books, fundraising events, or creative writing. Original writing can also be submitted in the form of poetry, stories, comic strips or scripts. This blog is maintained all year round and we encourage pupils, teachers and

parents to use it. See page 2 for further details, and to find out how to take part.



Many of our events and projects are organised jointly with partner organisations, who include major museums, galleries, libraries, theatres and other festivals. This is co-ordinated under the banner of the Manchester Creative Learning Network. Membership includes thousands of active teacher contacts and we send out a monthly email newsletter with information about creative learning opportunities.

To find out more, to sign up for the teacher network, or for links to our schools' outreach offers and those of our partner organisations, email Claudia Conerney on hlsschools@mmu.ac.uk or telephone +44 (0)161 247 1789.



Our main 2015 MCBF schools' day takes place on Tuesday 30th June and features a carousel of multi-cultural workshops for pupils in Key stages 2, 3 and 4. Multi-cultural Manchester also features appearances by Imtiaz Dharker and Carol Ann Duffy, and the People's History Museum's 'Living History' performances about migration. See page 18 for details and booking.



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- ★ PE for the Petrified!
- ★ Arts in school events, including 3D Art and Primary Sketchbooks

Training
& short
courses

Come and meet us at the MCBF family fun Day on Saturday 27 June or email KE-education@mmu.ac.uk

And
much
more...

mmu.ac.uk/education

General information

Booking Tickets

Details of how to book tickets for individual events are given under each listing in the main programme (pages 7 to 30). Tickets for most main events can be booked through the Quay Tickets box office by calling **0843 208 0500** or online via our website: **www.mcbf.org.uk**. You can select whether to receive printed tickets through the post or electronic tickets via email.

All tickets booked through Quay Tickets box office are subject to a booking fee, which is already included in the ticket price quoted next to each event listing. You can choose at check-out whether to receive your tickets by email to print at home (for a cost of 75p per transaction) or to have printed tickets sent out to you for an additional £1.25 postage fee.

Concessionary rates (where applicable and unless otherwise specified) are available to anyone aged 16 or under, pensioners, students in possession of a valid college or university ID card, current members of Manchester Metropolitan University staff and MMU Alumni.

Accommodation

Accommodation at our official partner hotels, the Macdonald Manchester and Spa at Piccadilly, and the Macdonald Townhouse on Portland Street, is available at special rates for anyone attending Manchester Children's Book Festival events, subject to availability from 26th June to 5th July 2015:

Macdonald Manchester
Classic double room: £90
Family room (two double beds): £110

Macdonald Townhouse
Classic double room: £100
Family room (two double beds): £120

To book accommodation call: **+44 (0)161 272 3200** or email **reservations.manchester@macdonald-hotels.co.uk**, quoting 'Manchester Children's Book Festival'.

Programming

To the best of our knowledge, all information given in this brochure was correct at the time of going to press but all details may be subject to change. Please visit **www.mcbf.org.uk** for up-to-date information.

Mailing List

To join the Manchester Children's Book Festival mailing list and be kept up-to-date with all the latest developments and announcements, please go to **www.mcbf.org.uk** and complete the online form or contact: **0161 247 2424; mcbf@mmu.ac.uk**.

Social Media

You can follow us and join the conversation on Twitter **@MCBFestival** and join the Facebook group – search for 'Manchester Children's Book Festival'.

Festival Volunteers

A number of paid and voluntary positions are available during the Festival, but these are reserved exclusively for staff, students and alumni of Manchester Metropolitan University as part of our Student Enrichment and Employability agendas.

Book Signings

Where possible, a selection of books by participating authors will be available to purchase at relevant events, and many of the authors will be happy to sign copies afterwards.

Access

The Manchester Children's Book Festival welcomes disabled visitors and we aim to make our events accessible to the broadest possible audience. Many of our venues are equipped with hearing aid induction loops, are wheelchair-friendly, have 'speaking lifts' with controls at wheelchair level and in Braille, and disabled toilets. Wheelchair users will be able to indicate when booking tickets for most events that they will be attending in a wheelchair. Carers attending with disabled guests are entitled to book tickets at the concessionary rate where applicable – but will need a ticket to attend. Please contact us on **0161 247 2424** or **mcbf@mmu.ac.uk** to discuss your individual access needs.

Age Restrictions

Children aged under 16 attending any aspect of the Manchester Children's Book Festival must be accompanied by an adult at all times. Babes in arms aged two years and under are permitted to attend for free provided that they remain on an adult's knee through the performance. Manchester Metropolitan University adheres to Health and Safety regulations, but cannot be held responsible for any child left alone on its premises or at Festival events held at outside (non-MMU) venues.

Photographers and film-makers will be present at the Festival and images captured may be used in print or online by Manchester Metropolitan University and other outside organisations (including partner institutions and regional and national media). If you would prefer not to be photographed and/or would prefer a child accompanying you not to be photographed, please inform the photographer.

Organisation and Charitable Status

The Manchester Children's Book Festival is an annual event coordinated and directed by the Faculty of Humanities, Languages and Social Science at Manchester Metropolitan University (MMU). The University enjoys charitable status as an exempt charity under Schedule 2 to the Charities Act 1993 (amended by the Charities Act 2006). It is therefore subject to charity legislation but is not required to register with the Charity Commission and is not regulated by it. As an exempt charity, the University does not have a registered charity number.



Venues

- 1 MMU Geoffrey Manton Building
Manchester Metropolitan University
All Saints Campus
Rosamond Street West
Manchester
M15 6LL
0161 247 1361
www.mmu.ac.uk
- 2 Manchester Central Library
Town Hall Extension
Albert Square
Mount Street
Manchester
M60 2LA
0161 234 1983
www.manchester.gov.uk/libraries
- 3 Royal Northern College of Music
124 Oxford Road
Manchester
M13 9RD
0161 907 5200
www.rmcm.ac.uk
- 4 Ordsall Hall
322 Ordsall Lane
Ordsall
Salford
M5 3AN
0161 872 0251
www.salfordcommunityleisure.co.uk/culture/ordsall-hall
- 5 Z-arts
335 Stretford Road
Manchester
M15 5ZA
0161 232 6089
www.z-arts.org
- 6 Royal Exchange Theatre
St Ann's Square
Manchester
M2 7DH
0161 833 9833
www.royalexchange.co.uk
- 7 The Portico Library
57 Mosley Street
Manchester
M2 3HY
0161 236 6785
www.theportico.org.uk
- 8 Moss Side Powerhouse Library
140 Raby Street
Manchester
M14 4SL
0161 227 2758
www.manchester.gov.uk/libraries
- 9 National Football Museum
Urbis Building
Cathedral Gardens
Todd Street
Manchester
M4 3BG
0161 605 8200
www.nationalfootballmuseum.com
- 10 Simply Books
228 Moss Lane
Bramhall
Cheshire
SK7 1BD
0161 439 1436
www.simplybooks.info
- 11 Urmston Bookshops
72 Flixton Road
Urmston
Manchester
M41 5AB
0161 747 7442
www.urmstonbooks.co.uk
- 12 Waterstones Manchester Deansgate
91 Deansgate
Manchester
M3 2BW
0161 837 3000
www.waterstones.com

Support the Festival

Sponsorship and Advertising Opportunities that Make a Difference

The Manchester Children's Book Festival's fun-packed, inspirational events and interactive activities fuel its remarkable reach and offer our supporters a great way of connecting with a captive audience in the Northwest and across the globe – children, parents and school groups from 99 different countries joined in the fun in 2014!

Sponsoring MCBF means helping to inspire children from the most disadvantaged areas of Manchester; making interaction with their literary heroes a reality while extending your profile with a new audience internationally.

Whether you want to strengthen existing ties with this demographic or to build new links, we have developed a range of opportunities that will work to meet your objectives, sharing your business values and principles with MCBF's following – as well as your products and services too! Join us in creating a lasting, inspirational legacy for the children of Manchester and beyond.

Sponsorship and advertising opportunities to suit all budgets can be viewed on our website (go to www.mcbf.org.uk and click 'Support the Festival'). To discuss the opportunity that best suits your business please contact: Lisa Vincent, MCBF Funding and Sponsorship Manager on l.vincent@mmu.ac.uk or **07800 507 771**.

Friends of the Festival

Become an official Friend of the Manchester Children's Book Festival and receive a range of exclusive offers, including priority booking for event tickets at future Festivals, invitations to a special reception with the Festival's Creative Director Poet Laureate Dame Carol Ann Duffy. To find out more go: www.mcbf.org.uk and click on 'Support the Festival'.





Manchester
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University

IS THERE A BOOK IN YOU?

The Manchester Writing School at MMU

Hosting a suite of ambitious degree programmes and short courses, a vibrant series of public events and a major international writing competition, the Manchester Writing School at MMU is a thriving centre of creative excellence working under the direction of Poet Laureate Dame Carol Ann Duffy.

Creative programmes of study based in the School include our BA (Hons) English and Creative Writing programme and our internationally-recognised MA in Creative Writing – available to study on campus in Manchester and also from anywhere in the world via online distance learning. The MA offers specialist routes in Novel, Poetry and Writing for Children & Young Adults and there are optional units in Teaching Creative Writing.

Tutors include Sherry Ashworth, Andrew Biswell, Carys Bray, N M Browne, Ellie Byrne,

Adam Dalton, Sarah Dobbs, Dame Carol Ann Duffy, Nikolai Duffy, Catherine Fox, Rachel Genn, Helen Marshall, Livi Michael, Gregory Norminton, Adam O’Riordan, Michael Symmons Roberts, Jacqueline Roy, Nicholas Royle, Andrew Rudd, Jean Sprackland, Joe Stretch and Julie Wilkinson.

For full details, go to:
www.manchesterwritingschool.co.uk
or contact
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+44 (0)161 247 1787.

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For full details go to www.manchesterwritingschool.co.uk or contact writingschool@mmu.ac.uk; +44 (0) 161 247 1787

Time Travel Comic Strip Competition

Have you ever dreamed about time travel? Ever imagined what it would be like to go wherever you wanted and do whatever you wanted?

Enter the MCBF Time Travel Comic Strip competition

Go to www.mcbf.org.uk and click 'Get Involved' for details

Adventure through time with our 2015 Festival mascot! Competition Valance - or create your own character!

Manchester Children's Book Festival

Manchester Metropolitan University

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The first MCBF Young Journalism Prize...

... invites young people to write about MCBF events, review their favourite children's books, or send in opinion pieces (e.g. what do you think about libraries?). The Prize is open to young writers of any age but you must be no older than 16 at the end of August 2015. Extracts from the best pieces will be printed in our Festival News publication and the overall winner – the MCBF Young Journalist of the Year – will receive a £100 Amazon voucher.

Send your blogs to mcbf@mmu.ac.uk.
For further guidance, go to:
www.mcbf.org.uk and click 'Get Involved'.

This competition has been kindly funded
by Mr Mohammad Habebullah OBE.



Festival Team

Creative Director: Poet Laureate Professor Dame Carol Ann Duffy CBE OBE
Festival Director: Marketing & Development: James Draper
Festival Director: Education & Partnerships: Kaye Tew
Schools Liaison & Festival Projects: Claudia Conemey
Student Engagement & Events Management: Lisa Bach and Rachel Bruce
Sponsorship & Fundraising: Lisa Vincent (l.vincent@mmu.ac.uk; 07800 507771)
Press & PR: Kat Dibbits (k.dibbits@mmu.ac.uk; 0161 247 5278)
Social Media Team Manager: Natalie Carragher
Brochure Design: Anne Tudor
Let in the Stars designed by: Anna Evans
Website Design: Patrick Kelembeck at Kelembeck Design
Website Development: Stephen Ireland at Ivparkmedia
Festival Publications: Iris Feindt
Festival Patrons: Curtis Jobling and Michael Morpurgo
Organised by Manchester Metropolitan University

With special thanks to Liz Scott for her help in curating the 2015 programme, and to Duncan Lockhart for leaving us always thinking: "What would Duncan do?"

For our Suzy Boardman, with thanks always for the inspiration.

Illustrations taken from the *Compton Valance* books by Matt Brown, illustrated by Lizzie Finlay, and published by Usborne Publishing Ltd. Illustrations copyright © 2015 Usborne Publishing Ltd.

Tickets available via: **www.mcbf.org.uk**
or call the box office on: **0843 208 0500**

 Follow: **@MCBFestival**

 Join '**Manchester Children's Book Festival**'

Contact **mcbf@mmu.ac.uk**

Manchester Children's Book Festival
The Manchester Writing School
Manchester Metropolitan University
All Saints Campus
Oxford Road
Manchester
M15 6LL
United Kingdom

Telephone +44 (0) 161 247 2424
Email mcbf@mmu.ac.uk

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