

## Thursday 26 March

### Poetry Slam

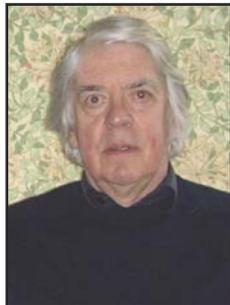
Michelle Scally-Clarke returns to create another Slam with Lawnswood students. Performance poetry, singing and dancing, all of it original.

6pm Lawnswood School Main Hall

Free

## Friday 27 March

### Snake-pits and Hairy-Brecks



An Emeritus professor of Icelandic Studies, Rory McTurk is best known for his work on Ragnar Hairy-Brecks, a Viking hero who met his death in a snake-pit, bound by hand and foot, but still able to sing cheerfully of a lifetime's adventures. Rory's lecture will highlight, among other things, the Headingley connections of this colourful figure.

7pm Headingley Library

Entry £3\*

## Saturday 28 March

### Tea with Beryl Bainbridge



Dame Beryl Bainbridge will speak about her latest novel, *The Girl in the Polka Dot Dress*, herself, and a lifetime's work. Beryl Bainbridge began her working life as an actress and has remained an entertainer ever since, as one of Britain's most popular and best-loved novelists. Her work has attracted a wide readership as well as critical acclaim, having been short-listed for the Booker Prize four times, and winning the

Whitbread Prize three times, most recently for *Every Man for Himself* (1996). Her trademark is the sardonic, even at times macabre wit in her books, usually mercilessly black comedies with eccentric characters.

3 pm New Headingley Club, St Michael's Road

Entry £6\* Please book.

\* with refreshments

## Saturday 28 March

### Sonnets

A new play by Paul Priest presented as a script-in-hand performance by Theatre of the Dales. Shakespeare's sonnets have a story behind them. The basic facts are not hard to guess, yet the inner reality remains almost as mysterious as the sonnets themselves. This play tries to let the sonnets and the story illuminate each other. Raised in America, Paul Priest is a Shakespeare scholar and retired university lecturer now living in Headingley.

7.30 pm Yorkshire College of Music and Drama

Entry £6

## Sunday 29 March

### Poetry at Dare

One of the North's foremost poets and writers, James Nash works in schools, runs workshops with writers' and readers' groups and comperes events – like this one. Bring your poems! James will read some of his own work too, including poems from his new publication *Coma Songs*.

2 – 4pm Dare Café Free

**Tickets are available from the Oxfam  
Shop in Headingley or on the door**

**To book tickets - 0113 275 6652**

**General Enquiries – 0113 225 7397**

**Updated information online at  
[www.headingleylitfest.blogspot.com](http://www.headingleylitfest.blogspot.com)  
and [www.headingley.org](http://www.headingley.org)**



Headingley LitFest 2009

Celebrate!

## Sunday 8 February

### The Hounding of David Oluwale



Kester Aspden (pictured) with Ian Duhig  
A great opportunity to meet the author of this critically acclaimed book, the result of painstaking research into the mystery of the life and violent death (in Leeds) of David Oluwale. It is a story that reverberates in our city today and the event coincides with the premiere of the play - adapted from the book - at the WYP.

Kester is a former Professor of Criminology at Leeds University. His book was awarded the Gold Dagger Award for non-fiction. Ian Duhig is a widely-acclaimed poet who has worked also with homeless people. He has written movingly about David Oluwale. Proceeds from this event will go to the Oluwale Memorial Campaign, in this 40th anniversary of his death.

4 – 6 p.m. Yorkshire College of Music and Drama, Shire Oak Road.  
Entry £2\* with a collection.

## Friday 13 March

### Headingley Stadium

Presentation of Children's Creative Writing Competition organized by Leeds Rugby Learning Centre in partnership with Headingley LitFest.

Half-time on the pitch, Leeds Rhinos v Wigan Warriors match

## Sunday 15 March

### LitFest Launch

Following last year's glamorous occasion, the LitFest Launch Party will be bigger this year, at the New Headingley Club. Open to all - meet local authors, artists and performers. There will be an auction and a literary quiz, with prizes.

From 7.30pm New Headingley Club, St Michael's Road

## Wednesday 18 March

### Salvage

Tall tales of loss and recovery by Peter Spafford. Four verse stories told by four actors.

7.30pm The Bowery, corner of Monk Bridge Road and Otley Road  
Entry £4 on the door.

## Thursday 19 March

### Virtual Aires

Trio Literati performs in a celebration of *Aireings*, the Leeds-based poetry magazine dedicated to publishing new work, which has been running for over thirty years and which is now moving to the internet. There will be an open mic session after the interval.

7.30 pm Yorkshire College of Music and Drama, Shire Oak Road  
Entry £5\*

## Friday 20 March

### Making Crime Pay



Bob Barnard will reveal a few tips of the trade. Many will remember Bob from the last LitFest, when he talked about the Brontës. He is a veteran crime writer, winner of the Crime Writers' Association Diamond Dagger Award and Best Crime Short Story 2007.

7pm Headingley Library, North Lane  
Entry £3\*

## Saturday 21 March

### When the Wind Changed

The Blahs are a group of Leeds-based theatre makers who will make this story up with children aged 5 and 6 by tapping into their natural ability and desire to make faces.

10.30 – 11.00am and 11.30 – 12.00noon

Headingley Library, North Lane

Free. Please book.

## Saturday 21 March

### An Domhan eile

Using their unique Celtic blend of poetry, music and song Lucht Focail (the award winning Irish writers' group) explores Irish myth and legend. Lucht Focail means 'People of the Word'. This event is organised in partnership with Irish History Month 2009.

7.30pm Bowery

Free

## Saturday 21 March

### Writer's workshop with Ian Clayton.

All aspiring writers are invited to have a go.

2 – 4pm Café – Headingley Stadium. St Michael's Lane.

Free. Please book.

## Saturday 21 March

### Phil Caplan and Ian Clayton



Ghost writer Phil Caplan will talk about working with well-known sports personalities, Jamie Peacock for example. Author and television presenter Ian Clayton (pictured) will hold forth on his book *Bringing it All Back Home*. Ian listened to music as a kid to escape and as an adult to connect. He has created a book about love, friendship and loss – about life and living it. While searching for a soundtrack to his own life story, he has discovered the heart that beats inside us all. Any proceeds go to the Leeds Rugby Learning Centre and the LitFest. Buffet food. 7.30pm Premiere Suite, Headingley Stadium

Entry £12

## Sunday 22 March

### Climate Change

A one-act play by Headingley actor and writer Lynn Thornton, a light-hearted treatment of a topical issue, in which global changes are paralleled by changes in the lives of the characters. A discussion will follow on character-development in playwriting.

7.30pm Yorkshire College of Music and Drama, Shire Oak Road  
Entry £4

## Tuesday 24 March



### Michelle at Salvo's

Michelle Scally-Clarke performs in a specially-written piece. Dinner – spezattino of lamb with barley and gnocchi sardo, vegetarian option available – is included.

8.30pm for 9pm

£15 Salumeria, Otley Road. Book tickets from Salvo's.

## Wednesday 25 March

### On the Edge

This short story evening follows the great success of the LitFest interim event at Lento last July.

7.30pm Café Lento, North Lane

Free