



Includes children's and young people's events

“the north's most
electrifying
literature
festival”

Alan Bennett
Rosie Boycott
Gyles Brandreth
Alastair Campbell
Clarissa Dickson-Wright
Germaine Greer
Linton Kwesi Johnson
Dom Joly
James Naughtie
Michael Ondaatje
Brian Patten and Roger McGough
Libby Purves
Fay Weldon



Welcome to Ilkley Literature Festival 2007!

We've a host of exciting names with us this year – from Alan Bennett and Michael Ondaatje to John Julius Norwich, poet Linton Kwesi Johnson, yachtsman Robin Knox-Johnston, broadcaster Johnnie Walker, Sue Townsend, Roy Hattersley, Germaine Greer – shedding light on Shakespeare's wife – and Top Gear's James May, with a family afternoon featuring British inventions.

We've inspiring events to mark the Bicentenary of the Abolition of the Slave Trade: Caryl Phillips joins us from the USA; Ben Okri breaks a five year silence to talk about his work and 2007 Poet in Residence Rommi Smith will be inviting Festival goers to help create a unique literary 'Freedom Quilt'.

Whether you're meeting Danish or Bulgarian writers, following our environmental strand with Friends of the Earth Director Tony Juniper and weathermen Michael Fish and Paul Hudson, or sampling the best new writing from 'Archie' Markham, Jonathan Coe, Maggie O'Farrell, Dorothea Smartt, or Matthew Sweeney, we hope you'll feel spoilt for choice!


Rachel Feldberg
Festival Director

Events for children and young people can be found on pages 23-26.

Festival Feedback Session Thurs Oct 18th

Join the Festival Team on Thursday 18th October at 7.30pm at the Crescent Hotel to let us know your thoughts and views on this year's Festival over a glass of wine.

Events and Access Information

All venues are accessible with accessible toilets (exceptions: first floor Manor House Museum; Church House – accessible toilet in nearby building). Working dogs welcome. BSL interpreted events indicated with an .

Detailed access information from www.ilkleyliteraturefestival.org.uk or call 01943 816714.

Events last one hour unless otherwise stated and include 15-20 mins audience questions.

After events, authors normally sign books, available from the Festival bookstall run by our partners, The Grove Bookshop at each venue. Some authors attract lengthy queues!

The bar will be open before, after (and where appropriate during) evening events.

Soft drinks, tea/coffee available at most events.

The Festival tea bar at Ilkley Playhouse will be open during Festival weekends.

If you'd like a large print or taped copy of this brochure, ring the Festival office on 01943 816714.