



News Release

20 March 2018

Weave New Words at Frodsham Literature Festival!

Calling all budding writers – get creative at the Weaver Words Literature Festival in April.

Join one of the three creative writing workshops with columnist David Charters, Gladys Mary Coles or Jean Atkin - or pop into Frodsham Community Centre with a short poem for the Pop-Up Poetry Wall!

During April, the centre will feature a large map of North Cheshire, especially created for the festival by Norley artist Ann Crawford. Everyone is invited to respond to the festival theme, *'A sense of place'*, by writing a short poem on a postcard, which will then be displayed by the map.

Festival manager Lynn Pegler said: "We want to inspire everyone to get writing! We welcome all poems on a postcard – whether it's a haiku on Helsby or some amusing lines celebrating your garden shed.

"Whether people are putting pen to paper for the first time or they're experienced writers, everyone has their own unique take on the area and we would love to read it."

The festival opens with an exciting preview event on Saturday 14 April – a Literary Cruise aboard the newly-restored, award-winning Daniel Adamson steam ship along the River Weaver Navigation. Tickets cost £25 and are available through the website www.thedanny.co.uk.

A festival fringe event with crime author Martin Edwards is being hosted by Frodsham Library on Thursday 12 April, 7pm. Tickets are £5 from the library.

Tickets are flying out for the main Weaver Words Literature Festival, Wednesday 25 – Sunday 29 April, which offers five days of fabulous talks, events and workshops.

Particularly popular are TV broadcaster and writer Gyles Brandreth on Sunday 29 April and poet Ian McMillan on Thursday 26 April – both likely to be sell-out performances.

The Weaver Words festival theme ‘A sense of place’ has inspired a wide range of events including talks on Jane Eyre by Prof Sue Zlosnik, Seamus Heaney, music biography and Islam in modern Britain, plus a Literary Lunch at Forest Hills Hotel with guest speaker David Barnett, author of best-selling novel *Calling Major Tom*.

Award-winning Word Weavers poet Andrew Rudd and violinist Daniel Axworthy are joined by poet Rachel Mann for another inspirational opening night of music and poetry on Wednesday 25 April.

Radio Four *Archers* star Sunny Ormonde and colleagues take a light-hearted journey into the world of poet Philip Larkin in the popular stage production *Larkin’ About* on Friday 27 April.

Jungle Book author Rudyard Kipling takes centre stage on Saturday 28 April in a new play, *If Only: An Audience with Rudyard Kipling*, which comes fresh from a successful run at the Edinburgh Festival fringe.

And the whole festival comes to an explosive climax on Sunday 29 April with the announcement of the winners of the Flash Fiction prize and the Great Weaver Words children’s poetry competition. Also on stage that night will be a rousing performance from comedy actor John Gorman, singers from Frodsham Choral Society and an open mic slot for talented local writers and spoken word artists. To book a performance slot email: pm@weaverwords.co.uk.

The Weaver Words Festival is supported by Arts Council England, the Marshes Community Benefit Fund and Frodsham Town Council. A free 28 page Weaver Words brochure is available to collect from Frodsham Community Centre, Dandelion Gifts, Castle Park and other publicity points around the town.

For more details see the festival website www.weaverwords.org.uk. Tickets can be purchased online, through the box office 0333 666 3366 and in person at Frodsham Community Centre or Dandelion Gifts.

MEDIA ENQUIRIES

For more information about Weaver Words, Frodsham Literature Festival, please contact Festival Manager, Lynn Pegler, on 01928 789042/07783 686246. pm@weaverwords.org.uk