

Hello and welcome to the latest newsletter from the Worcestershire Literary Festival Team!

With just under one week to go we have plenty of news for you about the forthcoming festival which all kicks off next Friday 17th June with a ceremony in Worcester Cathedral to appoint the County's first ever Poet Laureate. Ten shortlisted candidates out of 43 entries will battle it out for the prestigious title; tickets for this event are available from the Festival Office at £6.00 each (£7.00 on the door on the night) and are available to purchase by visiting this link - <http://www.worcslitfest.com/a-bard-for-worcestershire-appointment-ceremony/>.

Other News And Information From The Team:

1. The Festival Programme Is Now Online

The programme for the festival is complete and the countdown has begun to the launch of the first ever Worcestershire Literary Festival. Please check out our [Events Page](#) to find out what's on when during June 17th to June 27th and buy tickets – **TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE TO BUY NOW FROM THE FESTIVAL OFFICE FOR MOST EVENTS USING PAYPAL.**

If you need any help with purchasing tickets for events, please contact the Festival Office on 0845 652 0621 and we'll do our very best to help you.

During the Festival itself we will be distributing information from Unit C7 in the Crowngate in Worcester as well as selling tickets for many of our events and merchandise. This will be the central information point for all things related to the Festival, and is situated next door to The Entertainer and opposite Huntingdon Hall and the Art House Café in The Crowngate Shopping Centre, Worcester.

Please do come and see us there, we will be open from 10am till 4pm from Monday 13th June 2011 until Monday 27th June 2011.

2. Download The Official Events Brochure

You can download a copy of the Worcestershire Literary Festival brochure by [clicking here](#). Please note it is 5mb in size and may take a few minutes to download on slower connections. The brochure is currently being distributed to various locations throughout Worcester and Worcestershire.

You can also download our official A5 Update Supplement to the Festival Brochure by [clicking here](#).

Breaking news, programme changes and updates – [please visit this page](#).

3. We Need YOUR Feedback!

Did you go to an event during the festival? If so we need YOUR feedback. Please visit [this link](#) to take our short survey and those received by **Friday 29th July 2011** will be entered into a prize draw to win £50 of Waterstone's vouchers. Your feedback is very important to us, as it will help shape the 2012 festival, currently scheduled for June 15th to June 24th.

4. Blog For Us!

Would you like to blog for the first ever Worcestershire Literary Festival? We are looking for reviews, photos and videos of WLF events for our new blog www.worcslitfest.blogspot.com so that we can leave behind a permanent record of this years Worcestershire Literary Festival.

If you are running an event, appearing at an event, volunteering or helping at an event or are an audience member at an event, we would love to hear from you.

Please send in your blog entries, photos, or videos to blog@worcslitfest.com, and we will upload them onto our blog. We will give each contributor a full credit and link to your website where applicable in your blog entries.

We look forward to receiving your blog entries!

Please note – the Worcestershire Literary Festival reserves the right to edit content if required to do so.

5. NEW – Festival Hotline Number

We now have a dedicated festival hotline number which is **07971 379673**. This number is now active and will be operational during working hours (Monday to Friday 9.00am to 5.30pm) from Monday 6th June 2011 until Tuesday 27th June 2011. During the festival this number will be based in the Festival Information Point in the Crown Gate Shopping Centre in Worcester.

Calls to the Festival Office will still be answered but we would try to encourage you to call the hotline number with any queries that you have about the Festival.

6. WLF Mailing List

Want to sign up to our mailing list and receive the latest news, updates, offers and information about the forthcoming Worcestershire Literary Festival? Simply send an email to mailinglist@worcslitfest.com with SUBSCRIBE in the subject bar to start getting updates from the WLF team.

7. Press & Photography Passes

If you are a budding writer, blogger, reviewer or photographer you can request a press or photography pass to gain access to all WLF events during the festival in June. Please apply and request one by emailing info@worcslitfest.com.

8. How To Find Us During The Festival

Please [click here](#) to find out information about Worcester and Worcestershire and how to get to some of the venues taking part in the Festival.

[Map Of Worcester City Centre.](#)

[Map Of Worcestershire.](#)

You can come and meet the Festival team in our Festival Information Point during the Festival in Unit C7 in Chapel Walk of the Crowngate, next door to The Entertainer and opposite Huntingdon Hall and the Art House Cafe (by kind permission of the Crowngate Shopping Centre in Worcester. From here you will be able to buy tickets to our events, find out information, pick up copies of the brochure and flyers and buy WLF related merchandise.

9. Volunteer For Us

If you would like to volunteer to help make the first ever Worcestershire Literary Festival a huge success, please download a copy of our Volunteer Registration Form and return it via email to Raven Brookes – Festival Organiser: Volunteer Coordination via raven@worcslitfest.com. If you have put yourself down to volunteer for us during the Festival in June, Raven will be in touch w/c 30th May 2011.

[Download The Volunteer Registration Form](#)

10. We Need YOUR Books!

Are you getting rid of any of your unwanted books? The WLF will be recycling unwanted books by giving them out on Saturday 18th June in Worcester City Centre to passers by to help promote reading and writing. We will also be going into a few old people's homes during the Festival to take them some books and read to the residents during the Festival.

We will be doing this from Bell Square in the Crowngate where we will have outdoor events taking place along with poetry and prose readings. Please come and see us from 11am till 4pm.

If you have any books that you would like to donate to us please drop them off at the Festival Information Point in the Crowngate Worcester (Unit C7, next door to The Entertainer and The Art House Café in Worcester) between 11am and 4pm from Monday 13th June 2011.

Many thanks in advance :)

11. When Daddy Fell Into The Pond – A WLF Pre-Festival Event

We were delighted that Sarah James and Jenny Hope, who have been great friends of the festival since day one, hosted a family friendly workshop today entitled “When Daddy Fell Into The Pond” at the Arts Workshop in Worcester. It was a huge success and all the participants really enjoyed themselves.

You can read all about the workshop by visiting this link - <http://worcslitfest.blogspot.com/2011/06/when-daddy-fell-into-pond.html>

Huge thank to both Jenny and Sarah for running today's workshop – the next one they are running is called “In The Family Tree” at the Arts Workshop in Worcester on Saturday 18th June, 2.00pm till 3.30pm. This is another family friendly workshop and

tickets cost £3.00 (£2.00 concessions) – more information on <http://www.worcslitfest.com/in-the-family-tree/>.

12. Contact Us.

If you would like to contact us or if you have any questions, please call Clement Servini in the Festival Office on 0845 652 0621 or 01905 24435. Alternatively you can email us via info@worcslitfest.com, or visit our Facebook page www.facebook.com/worcslitfest.

We will be sending daily updates through this newsletter of news, events and a daily run down of what's happening during the festival, so keep checking your email inbox for the latest news and updates from the WLF Team.

See you at the Festival!

The WLF Team