

## TALKING ZEBRAS SPRING UPDATE 2019

Hi folks just a quick round up of news, some ancient some modern, to try and keep you in-touch even if you can't get to the Wickham too often.

### **FESTIVALS**

#### **Huddersfield**

We had a good session at Huddersfield Lit Fest this year, hosting a shared open mike with Batley Poets. Although not massively attended compared with some festival events it nevertheless shows the flag.

#### **Bradford**

There is no actual club involvement at Bradford this year but there is what promises to be a good "open" mike event. This year the format will be 15 x 5 minute slots available for local poets to pre-book. These will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. Once they're filled, they will open up a waiting list. There will then be up to 60 minute traditional Open Mic session, to which poets from groups, and solo poets are very welcome to stand up.

The event has been scheduled for Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June 7.30pm – 9.00 pm (pre-booked slots) and 9.00- 10.00pm – (open mic). The venue is the Wireless Bar, North Parade, Bradford.

#### **Cleckheaton**

Once again our normal 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday session coincides with the Cleckheaton Folk Festival and we will be moving out of the Wickham up to the Station Tavern once again. We have been included on the festival programme as a "Poems and Pints" session nominally hosted by yours truly. It is a free session and usually attracts a fair sprinkling of festival folkies to enliven the hours between 3 and 5:30pm. It will be in the upstairs room again 'm afraid. This is on 6<sup>th</sup> July

#### **Mirfield**

Mirfield Festival will be the following week and we are not on their reduced programme this year although we are on the waiting list if things go pear-shaped.

### **READ-A-ROUNDS**

#### **Talking Zebras**

TZ will continue its usual 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday sessions but the team are looking into something slightly different for the oddball 5<sup>th</sup> Saturday sessions. Watch this space (and social media)

#### **Honley Library**

Friends of Honley Library have dates for their Poetry Read-a-rounds for the rest of the year. P

18th June - Summer Read-a-round

17th September - Autumn Read-a-round

10th December - Winter/Christmas Read-a-round

Meetings start at 7pm and light refreshments are available.

#### **LEND US YOUR EARS**

It has been decided to hold another L.U.Y.E. concert this year. Probable dates will be the first Friday in October. [4<sup>th</sup> Oct] The same location and the format will be more or less the same too, why spoil a good recipe, but suggestions are still welcome. Volunteers please let Jim or Dave know.

#### **Bibliotherapy**

Not a TZ event and strictly speaking not a poetry event either; bibliotherapy is a way of helping those people somewhere along the wide spectrum of dementia by providing a non-threatening session of "book therapy". This usually consists of a leader reading one or more poems or prose pieces and, depending on the dementia level of the group opening it out to the group. In some sessions the leader may do the lion's share of the reading/talking in others there is a lot of feedback chatter, personal readings or reminiscences etc.

There are many sessions around Kirklees but I am involved with one on a Friday at Cleckheaton Library 1:00 – 2:30 ish where the focus so far has been mostly on discussion around a pre-selected theme.

Bibliotherapy

It's a chat and a cuppa

It is poetry, prose

It is restful and relaxing