

Festival of
Suffolk Poetry

10th Festival of Suffolk Poetry

10th & 11th May 2024

10th: Online on Zoom

11th: Live at the John Peel Centre



**Annie Freud, MW Bewick,
Sue Burge, Sheila Lockhart,
Roger White, George Szirtes,
Fiona Clark, Colin Whyles**

Fri 10 May



Sat 11 May



Get your tickets from suffolkpoetrysociety.org/events/

suffolkpoetrysociety.org



Suffolk Poetry Society

Registered Charity 1162298

10th Festival of Suffolk Poetry

Fri 10th May Timetable of online events

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Sue Burge workshop: Poetry on the Wing

In this workshop we'll be exploring all winged things – birds, insects, mythical creatures and a couple of surprises! Come along and let your poetry take flight via innovative exercises inspired by picture and poem prompts.



10:30 13:00	Poetry on the Wing – Sue Burge
15:00 16:00	Under the Influence – Caroline Gay Way
16:15 17:00	Open Mic – Colin Whyles

Sue Burge is a freelance creative writing and film-studies tutor, writing mentor and editor. She is based in North Norfolk and writes, amongst many other things, about the sea, which is a seven-minute walk from her house. Her poems have been published in a wide range of journals and have featured in themed anthologies on science fiction, modern Gothic, illness, Britishness, endangered birds, WWI and the pandemic. Sue's three poetry collections are: *In the Kingdom of Shadows*, *Confetti Dancers* and *The Artificial Parisienne* (Live Canon); her two pamphlets are *Lumière* and *The Saltwater Diaries* (Hedgehog Poetry Press). sueburge.uk



Under the Influence

Bring a poem that has been influenced by another poem, preferably by an established poet. Read us the original poem, then your own, and discuss the influence and how it affected and influenced your poem.

The number of readers will be limited.

Open Mic

Share your poems with the world.

Expect a three-minute limit for each reader, which may be extended by the host if time allows.

Fri 10/Sat 11 workshops

SPS members £18, non-members £20

Fri 10: Under the Influence + Open Mic

SPS members £10, Non-members £12 (joint ticket)

Sat 11 Live Afternoon/Evening

SPS members £20, Non-members £25

Fri 10 May tickets



Sat 11 May tickets



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Sat 11th May Timetable of live events

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Annie Freud is a poet, painter, editor and tutor in poetry composition. *The Best Man that Ever Was*, her debut collection published by Picador (2007), was awarded the Dimplex Prize for New Writing. *The Mirabelles* (2010) was shortlisted for the TS Eliot Prize followed by *The Remains*, which appeared in 2015. Her most recent collection, *Hiddensee* was published in January 2021. She is renowned for her live performances. Her fifth collection is expected in 2025. She has recently moved from Dorset to Suffolk.

MW Bewick grew up in Cumbria and now lives in Wivenhoe. Publications include *The Zircon Ferries* (Beir Bua Press, 2021) and *The End of Music* (Black Light Engine Room, 2022). He has been published widely. Recent projects include a long 'infinite scroll' poem, 'Bubblegum', and a multimedia exhibition with artist Ella Johnston, titled 'A Study of a Long-Lived Magma Ocean on a Young Moon'.



10:00-12:30

'The Poet and the Personal Pronoun'

workshop with **Annie Freud**

'Stop Making Sense'

workshop with **MW Bewick**

13:25	<i>Opening announcements</i>
13:30	Open Mic
13:55	Blythe Café Poets
14:20	<i>Interval</i>
14:30	Waveney & Swan Poets
14:55	Close reading – Fiona Clark
14:55	Poetry Aloud
15:20	<i>Interval</i>
15:30	Close reading – George Szirtes
15:40	Felixstowe Café Poets
16:00	Colin Whyles 'What the AI can it do?'
16:15	<i>Interval</i>
16:45	Roger White
17:10	Sheila Lockhart
17:35	<i>Interval</i>
17:45	MW Bewick
18:10	Annie Freud
18:35	<i>Closing speeches</i>
18:40	<i>Fin</i>

'The Poet and the Personal Pronoun'

workshop with **Annie Freud**

In this workshop, participants are invited to bring examples of their recent poems and discuss considerations that occur around the inclusion of personal pronouns and, by looking at several examples of published poems, how the presence of personal pronouns may impact on the reader.

'Stop Making Sense'

workshop with **MW Bewick**

Do you have an idea of what a good poem looks or sounds like? And when you write poetry, do you know what you are trying to say – or even what the poem is 'for'? Such subjective notions often constrain how we write. In this workshop we'll discover ways to free our ourselves from those considerations and instead write 'in the moment'. By being open to experimentation, play, ambiguity and irreverence, we can discover authenticity and presence in our creative work. When we stop making sense of poetry from the start, we can start writing better poetry.



Sheila Lockhart has a lifelong association with Aldeburgh. She lives on the Black Isle, having moved from Scotland. Sheila had careers in art history and social work.

Publications include *Northwards Now*, the *StAnza Poetry Map of Scotland*, *Twelve Rivers*, *The Alchemy Spoon*, *Re-side*, *Dreich Magazine*, and *The Ekphrastic Review*. Her debut pamphlet, *Brother*, was published by V.Press.



Roger White has lived in Hadleigh for 26 years. His debut collection *A Frame Less Perfect* was published by respected Shoestring Press. Kevin Bailey in *The Haiku Quarterly* says: "The word pictures at the heart of most of the poems are imbued with an emotional warmth that engage the reader... this poet is a master of imagery, and the writing 'assured' – my highest compliment to any writer... this is a rare talent."

Programme 2024

Annual Members' Reading at Walpole Old Chapel Sun 09 Jun 3.00pm |
Walpole Old Chapel, 2 Halesworth Road, Walpole, Halesworth, IP19 9AZ
Theme: **Non-conforming**

George Crabbe Poetry Competition closing deadline midnight Fri, 14 Jun |
Adjudicator: **Luke Wright** Prizes totalling **£950**.
All winning and commended poems will be published in the competition anthology.
Open to members of Suffolk Poetry Society or anyone born, educated, living or working in Suffolk, Norfolk or Essex. Entry form and rules at suffolkpoetrysociety.org.

National Poetry Day

Thu 03 Oct | Aldeburgh Beach South Lookout, 31 Crag Path, Aldeburgh, IP15 5BS

Members will read poems on the National Poetry Day theme

Competition Awards Presentation Sat 05 Oct 3.00pm

Prize presentations and readings from the winning poets and the adjudicator **Luke Wright**. Followed by afternoon tea.

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