

## **Wed 20 Apr 2011**

### **19:00 - 22:00 Howl and Scowl open mic**

**Where:** The Magdala Hampstead, 2a South Hill Park, Hampstead NW3 2SB, London

**Entry:** £3 for both readers and audience; open mic and featured artists.

**Description:** Sign up at 6:45pm, speak to Carlo or Patrick to confirm floor spots: [Metaphyzikal@hotmail.com](mailto:Metaphyzikal@hotmail.com).

A night of 10 min open mic spots. The format is flexible; You can read poetry, short stories and essays or just have a rant for 10min. Afterwards you can just chill and chat, or share and display your body of work. Readers invited to bring along free sample poems and essays to leave on the table.

Featuring this week: **Fay Roberts** (<http://www.fayroberts.co.uk>).

Nearest stations; Hampstead Heath over ground, Belsize Park (Northern line).

Venue website: <http://the-magdala.com>

## **Thu 21 Apr 2011**

### **20:00 - 22:30 Bang Said The Gun presents: Mud Wrestling With Words featuring Rosy Carrick and Kat Francois**

**Where:** The Roebuck, 50, Great Dover Street, London

**Entry:** £5/ £3; open mic plus featured guests **Rosy Carrick** and **Kat Francois**

**Description:** Plus - The World-Famous 'Rawmeat Stew Golden Gun Award' Win your own slot at the next Bang Said The Gun. Plus All The Bang Said The Gun Regulars

Bang Said The Gun – stand up poetry and delicious animation for people who don't necessarily sleep under duvets made from poetry books. And even if you do sleep with your copy of Poetry Review then don't worry, let's all snuggle up together and have a great big Bang Said The Gun Pyjama Party.

What they've been saying: "Comprehensively the best poetry gig I have ever been to... the finest portrayal of how performance poetry should be..." PopShot Magazine

"Let England Shake - Bang Said the Gun grabs poetry by its shoulders and shakes it until dirty, funny words fall out." Londonist

"Bang Said The Gun – The Death Of Poetry!" Oxford University

"Incredible job, to have been able to create not just a vibe, but a look, a sound, a style, an aesthetic, so simply – entirely its own amongst all the live shows is just stunning..." Inua Ellams

See you there gunslingers. See more - <http://www.bangsaidthegun.com/>  
<http://www.youtube.com/bangsaidtheguntevee>  
<http://twitter.com/bangsaidthegun>

<http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=177041579012864>

## **Mon 25 Apr 2011**

### **19:30 - 22:30 Headstand @ The Emperor**

**Where:** The Emperor, Hills Road, Cambridge CB2 1NW

**Entry:** £3/2 Concessions; featured poets and Open Mic; poetry for the podcast and radio show on 105FM Cambridge

**Description:** Check out <http://headstand.podomatic.com/> for more details on the show in general.

Oxford poet **Danny Chivers** tackles the big issues of the day with his witty and compelling performance poetry. An active campaigner, he hit the headlines earlier this year as a defendant in the collapsed Ratcliffe six trial. He writes regularly for the New Internationalist who have published his new book, The No Nonsense Guide To Climate Change.

<http://dannychivers.blogspot.com/>

Cambridge based **JS Watts** has a new collection, Cats and Other Myths published by Lapwing Publications.

<http://www.jswatts.co.uk/>

Plus more to be confirmed.

<http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=106539526099131>

## **Tue 26 Apr 2011**

### **19:30 - 22:30 Rhythmical Ravings & Rants - The Goat St Albans**

**Where:** The Goat Inn, Sopwell Lane, St Albans, AL1 1RN

**Entry:** free (with optional donation to the BARDAID Initiative); limited open mic plus featured performers in a merry-go-round of wit.

**Description:** Rhythmical Ravings & Rants night of Poetry, Parody and Song. More glorious Rrranting from the spoken word and music collective with the biggest heart and the most packed itinerary.

Rrrants bring you music, comedy, poetry, breath-taking mash-ups of all three, and all with a take-no-crap attitude that puts the big names to shame (quite literally).

So come if you enjoy talent, inclusivity, a range of entertainment, and a packed-up, fast-and-furious line-up with a pinch of chaos, guaranteed fun, and an ace of bass.

Find out more at <http://www.rrrants.com>

More about the venue at <http://www.goatinn.co.uk>

<http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=108247199260634>

**Tue 26 Apr 2011 continued...**

**20:00 - 22:00 CB1 Poetry Reading featuring Andrew Philip and Rob McKenzie**

**Where:** The Punter, Pound Hill, Cambridge

**Entry:** £3/ £2 concessions; Open Mic and featured performers

**Description:** If you're wandering around on the night, try to remember that the readings are held in the converted barn to the rear of the pub's courtyard.

Details will be on our website as usual but if you fancy a little pre taster here are some details about them. **Andrew Philip's** first book of poems, *The Ambulance Box*, was published in spring 2009 by Salt; shortlisted for the Scottish Mortgage Investment Trust First Book Award 2010 and the Aldeburgh First Collection Prize 2009; and highly commended in the 2009 Forward anthology. It follows two successful poetry pamphlets with Happenstance press.

A seasoned performer of his own work, Andrew has given readings and led workshops throughout the UK, from Orkney to London. He has also written for the Scottish Poetry Library's Ideas Box, tutored for The Poetry School and his introduction to writing poetry is one of the most popular pages on the Crafty Writer website. He blogs at Tonguefire.

Andrew was born in 1975 in Aberdeen, north-east Scotland and grew up in a former mining village near Falkirk in the Scottish central belt. After leaving school, he lived in Berlin for a short spell, returning to Scotland studying linguistics at Edinburgh. He now works part time for the Scottish Parliament's official report.

**Rob Mackenzie's** collection *The Opposite of Cabbage* is also published by Salt. His pamphlet collection, *The Clown of Natural Sorrow*, was published by Happenstance Press in 2005. His poems, articles and criticism have featured in many literary publications. He is an associate editor with Magma magazine. He blogs at Surroundings and at the Magma blog.

Rob was born and brought up in Glasgow. He received a law degree from Aberdeen University and then abandoned the possibility of significant personal wealth by switching to theology at Edinburgh University. He wrote over seven hundred songs and doubled on guitar and saxophone for cult art-rock bands Pure Television and Plastic Chicken. Despite airplay on Radio Scotland and a rash of gigs in tiny Glasgow pubs, he failed miserably to achieve rock stardom. He spent a year in Seoul, eight years in a Lanarkshire housing scheme, five years in Turin, and now lives in Edinburgh with his wife and daughter where he organises the Poetry at the Great Grog reading series by night and works as a Church of Scotland minister by day.

"Come along just to listen to some great poetry, or arrive by 7:45pm to sign up for a 2-minute slot to perform your work before a friendly, attentive audience. Events usually have one or more featured poets, who begin each half before the open mic slots." CB1 is a genuinely friendly, inclusive poetry night, with some gob-smacking featured performers.

<http://www.cb1poetry.org.uk>

<http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=201039336596873>

### **Wed 27 Apr 2011**

#### **20:00 - 23:00 Speakeasy Poetry Smackdown The Revenge!**

**Where:** The Brewery Tap, 80, Westgate, Peterborough

**Entry:** £4 (free to poets who book a slot and perform); open slam and featured mystery guest

**Description:** Well it is our 3rd birthday and to celebrate we are going to have a Poetry Slam with a difference... which is the addition of cake and lots of stupendous poets fighting it out for the 'Speakeasy Poetry Smackdown' title. Last year's winner **Mixy** will be handing over the wrestling mask to the next lucky winner. Who will also win free entry to Speakeasy for a year and a paid slot in the next year. We also have a very special but mystery guest of tales and imagination... who will be performing on the night. If you want to take part as a poet then please get in touch via [speakeasypoetry@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:speakeasypoetry@yahoo.co.uk) and we will book you a slot.

<http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=196821463684777>

### **Sat 30 Apr 2011**

#### **14:00 - 17:00 Wenlock Poetry Festival - Putting the Performance into Poetry Workshop**

**Where:** Methodist Church, Much Wenlock, Shropshire TF13 6AA

**Entry:** £4; performance poetry workshop Mark Niel leads a two hour workshop helping page poets to gain skills and confidence when reading in public.

**Description:** Writing poetry to be read in public or as a performance piece can be a very different experience to writing for the page. And who hasn't experienced jangling nerves and a dry mouth when reading in public, particularly for first time?

In this practical workshop, **Mark Niel** takes you through writing for performance and how to prepare to read or perform in public. This is the chance for you to practice in a sympathetic and friendly environment. Drawing on his acting background, Mark will lead you through practical exercises, divulge tricks of the trade and give individual coaching feedback. Please come prepared with a poem or extract lasting no more than ninety seconds. Followed by a book signing.

Mark's website: <http://www.akickinthearts.co.uk>

<http://www.wenlockpoetryfestival.org/programme/programme-saturday/sat-mark-niel.shtml> to book online and get more details about the festival.

**Sat 30 Apr 2011 continued...**

**12:00 - 23:00 Compendium**

**Where:** MADCAP, Creed Street, Wolverton, Milton Keynes MK11 5LY

**Entry:** £5 Adults, £2.50 Children, £10 Family Tickets, £4 Students and Madcap members.

**Description:** MADCAP Preservation Society presents a series of fund raising, music and activity events, based in the concourse and bar of the Madcap.

Music will be in the form of DJs, all from Wolverton and its outlying areas, who will be playing an eclectic mix of lounge-core, theme tunes, rare soul, Latin, funk, folk and eccentric oddities. There will be live percussion, in the form of "Mr. Hard Hands". He will blend his laidback bongo'isms sympathetically (and occasionally experimentally) with the day-long soundtrack.

The DJ line-up includes:

- ✓ **Shane Quentin** (Host of CRMK's 'Garden of Earthly Delights')
- ✓ **Jon Chase** (Hi Res, Flip the Script etc.)
- ✓ **James Clark** (By Proxy)
- ✓ **DJ Maniphest**
- ✓ **Tim Gallagher** (Milton Keynes College Youth Work Team)
- ✓ **Soulchild** (Madcap's resident ghost)
- ✓ **J-Ho & Dr. Lee**

Live musical interludes will take place throughout the day, courtesy of The Madcap's Youth Music Project'. There will be a supporting cast of vocalists, adventurers and attention-seekers stopping by on their travels. "**Poetry Kapow!**" are rumoured to be making an appearance too.

Apart from the music, there will be 'things to make and do'. There will be giant board games set up in the concourse (chess, Connect 4, Jenga, classic arcade games, table football etc), all courtesy of "MK Play Association". The bar area will have regular sized board games set up, for less energetic players, who want to sink battleships as they sink drinks. Huge sheets of paper and marker pens will be provided for everyone to explore their artistic imaginings as the music leads them into uncharted territory.

In addition, celebrated local animator "**Meechy**" will be projecting some of his video art and live film cut-ups throughout the day. The bar will be serving drinks, both alcoholic and fizzy pop. Cup cakes and hot Indian food will be available all day.

Compendium welcomes adults And their young.

Everyone involved has offered their services for free and all proceeds will be going to pay for the refurbishment of The Madcap building.

For further misinformation contact: The Madcap 01908 320179 or Ian 07979 065451.

**Sun 1 May 2011**

**12:00 - 13:00 Wenlock Poetry Festival - Poet in Motion with Mark Niel**

**Where:** Wenlock Pottery, Much Wenlock, Shropshire TF13 6AA

**Entry:** free; featured performer

**Description:** Poet in Motion sets **Mark Niel's** poetry in a narrative which tells the story of the past three years from Mark's first fraught open mic to performances at major festivals, the Shepherds Bush Empire and of course the inaugural Wenlock Poetry Festival Slam. Followed by a book signing.

Mark's website: <http://www.akickinthearts.co.uk>

<http://www.wenlockpoetryfestival.org/programme/programme-sunday/sunmark-niel.shtml> to find out more about the festival.

**19:30 - 23:00 Rhythmical Ravings and Rants (Rrrants)**

**Where:** The Camden Eye, Parkway, Camden, London NW1 9NX

**Entry:** free (with optional donation to the BARDAID Initiative); limited open mic plus featured performers in a merry-go-round of wit.

**Description:** More glorious Rrranting from the spoken word and music collective with the biggest heart and the most packed itinerary. Rrrants bring you music, comedy, poetry, breath-taking mash-ups of all three, and all with a take-no-crap attitude that puts the big names to shame (quite literally). So come if you enjoy talent, inclusivity, a range of entertainment, and a packed-up, fast-and-furious line-up with a pinch of chaos, guaranteed fun, and an ace of bass.

Find out more at <http://www.rrrants.com> More about the venue at <http://www.thecamdeneye.co.uk/>