

# NORTH WEST LITERARY ARTS

Volume 1 / Issue 1

## SUPPORTERS TABLE

Thank you to Inés, Katherine, Waterstones King Street, and Lancaster University-Grad College for helping us continue creating engaging, live literature events, writer development opportunities, podcasts and publications!



*Stories brewing*

## THE VIEW FROM MY WINDOW

Today is a beautiful day. The sky, plump with clouds, is a blueish, grey. For a few moments it brightens with the promise of sun, a trick of the light. Minutes later it darkens with the promise of showers. Either way, the sky makes promises. The air is thick with the smell of rain. Nothing escapes it. The pavement, scattered with dried leaves and footprints, is slick. Tree branches drip with it. The day rushes towards it. I'm at the edge of a storm and I can't wait.

I've always loved storms. The crackle of thunder, the flashes of lightning, the overflowing puddles, the wind scattering leaves like bad news, the rain washing it away: the hint of promise.

Whether it rains or not has nothing to do with me or anything I have done. I have no control over the weather. But, I can control how I react to it. I can, at least in theory, even prepare for it. I can google *weather in Lancaster*. I can watch meteorologists predict days of rain followed by more days of rain. I can go out in the world armed with an umbrella in one hand, sunglasses in the other.

The weather, like the future will come. I'm looking forward to what both will bring.

Things are changing here at North West Literary Arts and while I'm not sure what the future brings, we're looking forward to it.

## WHAT'S NEW?

We're developing face-to-face, online, and hybrid nonfiction writing workshops for individuals and small groups. These workshops will be affordable and flexible so that we can reach more people.

*Why are we doing this?*

We take great pride in making Stories at the Storey a welcoming space where anyone can share their story. Still, some people lack the confidence to write and/or tell their stories. We think we can help with that. Both Naomi and I are professional writers and educators. Together we can help people develop their stories for print and performance. Participants will have the opportunity to perform at an event and (pending funding) to publish their work in an anthology.

## Opportunities and Events

If you're interested in taking one of our nonfiction classes either online, in person, or in a hybrid setting, please register your interest via email at [storiesatthestorey@gmail.com](mailto:storiesatthestorey@gmail.com).

Do you write nonfiction? Be on the lookout for our call for true stories.

[The Real Story](#) co-hosted an event with us earlier in the year. Besides their webzine, they have launched a publication that offers editorial support. They also have events that include masterclasses.

[Creative Nonfiction](#) is open for submissions. They are looking for pieces for their Twitter series as well as longer works. Be sure to read the guidelines.

Our friends at [Blue Moose Books](#) are accepting for submissions that respond to their seaside theme. This is a paid opportunity to be published in their anthology. Edited by Jenn Ashworth, you could be published along with writers like Carys Bray, Kirsty Logan, and Pete Kalu (all former guests of the salon).

There are quite a few calls for writing. Our favorite resource is [Paul McVeigh's](#) blog. A former guest at North West Literary Salon, Paul is an enthusiastic sharer of information. If you haven't already signed up to his blog, we highly recommend it.

[Aerogramme Writers Studio](#) is another source of information, from calls to retreats, they cover opportunities for writers in all stages.

Like to hear good stories? So do we. Check out [The MacGuffin](#). The MacGuffin is Comma Press' initiative and is a platform where anyone can record and share their creativity.

In search of a live lit night? Again, so are we. Manchester's [Bad Language](#) is a free, lively evening of prose and poetry. This monthly night has headliners and open mic slots. Whether you want to listen or read, they have space for you at this monthly event.

In or near Lancaster? [Spotlight](#) is another monthly night. Featuring musicians, comedians, storytellers and poets, this event tends to have something for everyone. It's around £3 entry. They have headliners, paid mic slots (by invitation), and open mic slots.

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*Want to change the future? Write it differently.*

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## GET IN TOUCH

Have news to share? Let us know and we will share it either via Twitter, Facebook or email.

Twitter: @NWLitSalon

Facebook: North West Literary Salon

Email: [northwestliterarysalon@gmail.com](mailto:northwestliterarysalon@gmail.com)

Thanks for reading,

Yvonne and Naomi, North West Literary Arts