

# NORTH WEST LITERARY ARTS

Volume 1 / Issue 7

## SUPPORTERS TABLE

Thank you to Katherine, Kevin, Waterstones King Street, Lancaster University-Grad College, New Writing North, and The Print Room at The Storey for helping us continue creating engaging, live literature events, writer development opportunities, podcasts and publications!

## THE VIEW FROM MY WINDOW

Last month we shared stories loosely exploring the theme “rejection.” Storytellers and poets shared pieces that explored families, relationships, writing, naming, identity and more. The stories were moving. Some made us laugh and some brought tears to our eyes. You may have noticed that we often hear stories told in the form of poems. Why is that? Stories at the Storey is a creative nonfiction, true story open mic night. As writers, readers, listeners and storytellers, we recognize that truth comes in many different formats. We allow writers to share their truths in the format they are most comfortable with.

In January and again in February, Emma from Beyond Radio joined us to record stories. The stories will air on Beyond Radio. We’re looking forward to engaging more listeners and to spreading the feelings we get from listening to real people share real stories. We hope to reach people who are unable to join

us at the live event. We have recorded events for radio and will be experimenting with a podcast and an audio book. We build connections and community through stories. The more people we reach, the bigger our community grows. Not all stories told on the night are recorded. Writers are under no obligation to have their stories recorded. Some stories benefit from the intimacy of live performance, face to face interactions, and the ability to be forgotten, forgiven.

March’s theme is “first” (loosely interpreted). We invite writers, storytellers, and anyone with a true story to tell (in any format) exploring firsts in love, life, career, and anything in between, to share their stories with us on March 29 at 7PM at The Storey, Lancaster. If you’d like to share your 3-5 minute true story in person, via email, on our website, Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram let us know.

*At Stories at the Storey there’s always room for one more.*

## WHAT’S NEW?

As a community-led company, we work with the writing community to create opportunities, events, projects, and prospects that our community needs. So, what project do you want to bring to life?

Interested in collaborating on a project? So are we. We are interested in collaborating with storytellers, writers, individuals, organizations, researchers, publishers, audio producers, photographers, documentaries, film makers, producers, artists, sociologists, social workers, mental health specialists, medical professionals, technology experts, and more.

Here are some of our current projects. Don’t see a project that interests you, propose one.

**Stories at the Storey:** Monthly true story open mic: provides a platform for new, emerging, and community writers and anyone with a true story to tell. The event builds community through creative nonfiction. Monthly event: last Thursday of each month.

**North West Literary Salon:** (in planning due to funding) Monthly literary salon featuring writers with a North West connection, local musicians and food. Held at Waterstones, the event is the first Friday of each month.

**Off the Page:** a writing development project where actors bring new writing (poetry, prose, creative nonfiction, scripts) to life. There are opportunities to collaborate.

***If These Walls Could Talk*** (in planning) is a literature-based project that uses narrative to encourage contemporary audiences and readers to engage with cultural, heritage, and community sites and spaces.

***Want to help us bring projects to life?*** Get in touch.

### Upcoming Events

**March 29:** Stories at the Storey. This month the theme is “firsts”. We are looking for stories about first times, first loves, first losses and anything in between. If you would like to share your true story, please let us know. Doors open at 6:30, stories start at 7.

**April 28:** We are hosting the Lancaster launch of Naomi Kruger’s novel, *May*. Stay tuned for an exclusive interview.

**May:** Pub Hub, an industry talk with editors and publishers. Details coming soon.

**May 29:** We are hosting a London literary event featuring Naomi Kruger and Jennifer Nansubuga Makumbi. The writers will read from their engaging new novels, answer questions, and talk to readers about their writing lives. Details coming soon.

### Tips and Prompts

Want to share your true story at Stories at the Storey but aren’t sure you’re ready? Did you know you can email us your draft for feedback or tips? Email us at [storiesatthestorey@gmail.com](mailto:storiesatthestorey@gmail.com). We’re happy to look over your drafts to help you develop your piece. Need to practice your prose? I always advise reading your piece out loud before reading it in public. Practicing your story in private helps you consider pauses and plan for audience reactions. Still, practicing alone is still practicing alone. We arrive at The Print Room around 6:30 before each Stories at the Storey, so if you’d like to practice or to get some tips on performing, or want to relax a bit before the open mic starts, join us for drinks at The Print Room.

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### *Building Community, One Story at a Time*

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### GET IN TOUCH

We are writers, educators, and literary advocates. We offer a range of bespoke services including writing and publishing mentoring, editorial services, creative writing workshops, career and executive storytelling workshops, writing development workshops, and live literary events.

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

Twitter: @NWLitSalon

Facebook: North West Literary Salon

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

Instagram: North West Literary Arts

Facebook group: On Literary, a community for literary news, events, opportunities

Thanks for reading,  
*Yvonne and Naomi, North West Literary Arts*