

WOLVES & APPLES 2018

SATURDAY SEPT 29TH

9.30-5.30

PROGRAMME



ST MARTIN'S HOUSE CONFERENCE CENTRE,
7 PEACOCK LANE. LEICESTER LE1 5PZ.

WWW.RED-LIGHTHOUSE.ORG.UK

Wolves & Apples 2018

The Wolves & Apples 2018 conference is a full-day event where aspiring children's writers can get practical advice and guidance, via panels, talks and workshops, from established professionals, including authors, agents and publishers. Speakers will be on hand to share their experiences, and signpost a range of ways to progress your writing and get your work in front of readers.

Wolves & Apples is a programme of support for aspiring children's writers managed by Mantle Arts that includes conferences, master classes and training events

Wolves & Apples 2018

Saturday 29th September

9.30 - 5.30

St Martin's House Conference Centre,
7 Peacock Lane,
Leicester.
LE1 5PZ.

**To book your ticket and for any updates to the event
information visit:**

www.mantlearts.org.uk/wolves-apples/

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TIMETABLE OF SESSIONS

		Kempe Room	Wycliffe Room	Bishop's Room
9.30 - 9.45	Arrival and coffee			
9.45 - 9.55	Introduction.	Matthew Pegg		
9.55 - 10.55	Session 1	Writing What Children Want to Read Narinder Dhani	Dramatic Screenwriting for the Younger Audience Jonathan Wolfman	
11.00 - 12.00	Session 2	Free Range Publishing Ruth Huddleston	Creative Collage-Making for Writers Jenny Alexander	Agent One to Ones Felicity Trew
12.00 - 12.15	Coffee			
12.15 - 1.15	Session 3	Writing from Images Pam Smy	Writing for Tweens (9-14yr olds) Tamsin Winter	
1.15 - 2.15	Lunch		Publisher One to Ones Ruth Huddleston	Agent One to Ones Felicity Trew
2.15 - 3.15	Session 4	What I Wish I'd Known from the Start Anne Fine		
3.20 - 4.20	Session 5	From Page to Screen and Back Anne Fine, Jonathan Wolfman, Narinder Dhani.	You Can't Take the Editor out of the Author... Non Pratt	
4.25 - 5.25	Session 6	What Next? Jenny Alexander, Non Pratt, Tamsin Winter, Pam Smy.		
5.25 - 5.30	Finish	Matthew Pegg		



Narinder Dhani

“I always loved reading and writing stories. After leaving Birmingham University (where I obtained an English degree and also met my husband) I started teaching children aged 7-11. I entered a competition to write the first three chapters of a book and was placed second. My prize was a word processor, an Amstrad 9152(!) so I decided it was time I left my teaching job and started writing full-time. The first book I ever wrote was a short novel for younger children called *A Medal for Malina*. The book was accepted by the first publisher I sent it to, and I have never looked back. I’ve published around 200 books, including the novelisation of the 2002 movie *Bend It Like Beckham* and the Bindi Babes series. I have written many of the multi-million selling Rainbow Magic books for younger children, under the shared pseudonym of Daisy Meadows.”

WRITING WHAT CHILDREN WANT TO READ

9.55 - 10.55
Kempe Room

Ever dreamt of becoming a best-selling author? Haven't we all? But is it possible to sustain a full-time, well-paid career as an author without hitting the dizzy heights of winning the Carnegie Medal? Yes, it's possible because Narinder Dhani's done it! Come along and explore diverse and different ways of writing for children, and what we as authors are hoping to achieve with our stories.

DRAMATIC SCREENWRITING FOR THE YOUNGER AUDIENCE

9.55 - 10.55
Wycliffe Room

Jonathan Wolfman shares his extra-curricular top ten tips and insights for those interested in writing on-screen drama for older children and younger adults. Are fundamental screenwriting craft skills, an understanding of your audience and a great idea enough? What else do you need?



Jonathan Wolfman

Jonathan Wolfman has recently produced *Katy*, a three-part drama for CBBC. Prior to that he was script executive on *Worst Witch* series 2 and produced series 3, 4 and 5 of the BAFTA nominated *Wolfblood* for CBBC and ZDF, having been script editor on series 1 and 2. He script edited series 1 of *The Dumping Ground* which won a Kids BAFTA, and all three series of the BAFTA award winning *Tracy Beaker Returns* for CBBC. During that period he was also executive script editor on the 52 part animation series *Pet Squad* and series 2 of *Scoop*. Prior to working for CBBC he was script editor for the 52 part animation series, *Bunny Maloney*, for Moonscoop and France 2 and spent a number of years working as a development producer for Talent Television. Jonathan has recently gone back to freelance screenwriting with a number of projects in development.



Ruth Huddleston

“I have been a bookseller (online with The Book People / Red House and offline), a printer, specialising in children’s picture and novelty books, a published author and an event organiser (The Imagine Festival at Southbank in London). The majority of my working life to date was spent at Templar Publishing, where, typically for a small independent, I covered a variety of roles, but primarily Sales & Marketing. The company grew exponentially over the 21 years I was there and we had some big successes, including, notably, the ‘Ology series. We sold Templar to Bonnier in 2008. Three years of corporate publishing later, I decided I was never going to publish a book again – but in 2015 I started Old Barn Books and had to re-learn everything I thought I already knew.”

FREE RANGE PUBLISHING

11.00 - 12.00
Kempe Room

Submitting work to one of the giant publishing houses is only one option for a writer. The independent children’s publishing sector offers another. Ruth Huddleston of Old Barn Books explains what independence can offer, its pluses and minuses, and tells the story of a book, from bright idea to bookshelf, as well as answering your burning questions about publishing and getting published.

CREATIVE COLLAGE-MAKING FOR WRITERS.

11.00 - 12.00
Wycliffe Room

Collage-making is a brilliant technique for gaining information and insights into what you’re writing and keeping things flowing. In this workshop, delivered many times to writers’ organisations such as the Society of Authors and the Scattered Authors’ Society, Jenny explains why it works, how it works, how to do it and how to use it. You’ll also get a chance to try the technique for yourself.

“I often use Jenny’s collage activity to explore the subconscious world of my stories. A great resource, and an inspiring writing teacher” ~ Lee Weatherly



Jenny Alexander

Jenny Alexander has written fiction and non-fiction for readers of all ages. Her children’s fiction includes the Blue Peter Book Club choice *How to Get What You Want*, by Peony Pinker, and Red House Children’s Book Awards Highly Commended *Car-Mad Jack*. Her funny self-help book, *Bullies, Bigmouths and So-called Friends*, is still consistently top in its Amazon categories ten years after publication, and her Young Adult novel about sibling suicide is recommended by Cruse Bereavement Care. Her adults’ books include three for writers, covering different stages in the writing process. Jenny runs her own varied programme of evening courses, and workshops in Cornwall, as well as working for large organisations, including The Society of Authors, Bridging Arts, Writing Magazine, The Arvon Foundation and The Writing Retreat.



Pam Smy

Pam Smy has illustrated folktales, chapter books, nursery rhyme collections, picture books and novels, and has illustrated books for authors such as Siobhan Dowd, Linda Newbery, John Agard and Penelope Lively. Her first novel as both author and illustrator, *Thornhill*, was published by David Fickling Books in 2017, and was short listed for the Waterstones Children's Book Prize and the CILIP Greenaway Medal 2018. Pam has combined her career as an illustrator with teaching at undergraduate and post graduate level, and is passionate about sharing a love of drawing as a basis of research and exploration for the illustrator. She is a visiting lecturer on the MA in Children's Book Illustration at Cambridge School of Art and a founding member of Orange Beak Studio, along with illustrator Maisie Paradise Shearring and designer, Ness Wood.

WRITING FROM IMAGES

12.15 - 13.15
Kempe Room

Author and illustrator Pam Smy talks about how the ideas for, and development of, her novel, *Thornhill*, evolved through drawing and making. Character studies, observational research, drawing plans, model making and inspiration from books and exhibitions combine to explore this particular approach to story making.



WRITING FOR TWEENS (9-14 yr olds)

12.15 - 13.15
Wycliffe Room

In this interactive workshop, Tamsin Winter will give advice on channelling your inner 'tweenager', as well as offering practical tips and guidance on themes, pacing, world-building, narrative voice, and navigating the potential plot-holes (and dilemmas!) thrown up by the internet and social media. Tamsin's session will give you a unique insight into writing for 21st century tweens.



Tamsin Winter

Tamsin Winter is a fresh, funny and moving voice for children aged 9-14. She grew up in a Northamptonshire village where she spent her childhood reading books and writing stories. She studied English Literature and Creative Writing at university, and has worked as an English teacher for many years. In 2015 Tamsin was a finalist of the Emirates Festival of Literature writing prize. Her award-winning debut novel, *Being Miss Nobody*, has been chosen as one of the Books of the Year by the Reading Agency, and was nominated for the Carnegie Medal. Her second novel, also aimed at young teenagers, will be published in 2019.



Anne Fine

Anne Fine is a distinguished writer for both adults and children. Her novel *Goggle-Eyes* won the Guardian Children's Fiction Prize as well as Britain's most coveted award for children's literature, The Carnegie Medal. She won the Carnegie Medal again for *Flour Babies*, which also won the Whitbread Children's Book of the Year Award. In 1990 and again in 1993 she was voted Publishing News' Children's Author of the Year. Adaptations of her work have been screened by the BBC and her novel *Madame Doubtfire* was adapted for film under the title *Mrs Doubtfire*. Having written over fifty books for children of all ages, Anne Fine became Children's Laureate in 2001 and during her two years of office set up the Home Library, where you can download free modern bookplates, and published three classic anthologies of poetry for different age groups, called *A Shame to Miss* 1, 2 & 3. In 2003 she became a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature and was awarded an OBE.

WHAT I WISH I'D KNOWN FROM THE START

14.15 - 15.15
Kempe Room

Anne Fine will look back over a career of over forty years and share what she's learned about mistakes that needn't be made, ways to put in the hours, and how to deal with both triumph and disaster. She'll talk about her belief that a writer must settle on aims, and work in ways, that suit his or her own personality, rather than following general advice about writing and publishing. She'll answer the questions she gets asked most often, and invite those who are present to ask more.

FROM PAGE TO SCREEN AND BACK AGAIN

15.20 - 16.20
Kempe Room

What happens when your book gets adapted for film or TV? Or when you're asked to write the novelisation of a popular movie? Guest speakers with experience of adapting or being adapted share their insights, horror stories and anecdotes.



Jonathan Wolfman
Anne Fine
Narinder Dhani



Non Pratt

After several years working as an editor in children's publishing, Non became a full-time author when her debut YA novel, *Trouble*, was released in 2014. She has written two further novels *Remix*, *Truth or Dare* and two novellas *Unboxed* and *Second Best Friend*, all of which focus on teen characters getting up to all the things Non wanted to do at that age (but didn't). She has collaborated with six other UK authors to create *Floored* and adapt John Allison's hit comic series *Giant Days* into a novel.

YOU CAN'T TAKE THE EDITOR OUT OF THE AUTHOR...

15.20 - 16.20
Wycliffe Room

Editing one's own work is an essential skill for a writer. With a decade of experience as an editor in children's publishing before becoming published herself, Non Pratt discusses her experience working on both sides of the desk and how knowing how to edit other writers taught her how to edit herself. Sort of...



AGENT AND PUBLISHER ONE TO ONE SESSIONS

11.00 - 12.00 Felicity Trew
13.15 - 14.15 Felicity Trew
Bishop's Room

13.15 - 14.15 Ruth Huddleston
Wycliffe Room

Literary agent Felicity Trew and publisher Ruth Huddleston will be offering a small number of ten minute one to one sessions, in which they will give feedback on your writing and pointers about what you might need to do next to improve your chances of getting an agent and being published.

Places are limited, so we will be allocating them via application. Everyone who attends Wolves & Apples 2018 will be sent details of how to apply. The closing date for the initial round of places is 15th September. A second round of allocations will take place for people who book after that date.



Felicity Trew

Felicity Trew is keenly building up a list of children's writers and illustrators at the Caroline Sheldon Literary Agency. Dream projects to arrive on her desk would be: a spellbinding novel of our time, a bold UK teen voice, an accessible, well-plotted (and don't hold back on the funny!) middle grade book, and a picture book classic of the future à la *The Tiger Who Came to Tea*.



Ruth Huddleston



Jenny Alexander
Non Pratt
Tamsin Winter
Pam Smy

WHAT NEXT?

16.25 - 17.25

Kempe Room

Advice on what to do after *Wolves & Apples*: what's available for writers in your area, where to seek support and feedback, top tips, recommended reading, food for thought and the chance to ask any final questions.



Travel

ST MARTIN'S HOUSE CONFERENCE CENTRE,
7 PEACOCK LANE, LEICESTER. LE1 5PZ.

By Road

From the South

Exit the M1 at Junction 21 sign posted M69 and Leicester. Follow signs for A5460 heading towards Leicester City Centre. Follow for approx 3 miles and follow signs for Castle Gardens and Highcross. Arrive at St Nicholas Circle. Take the 3rd exit around St Nicholas Circle roundabout, onto Peacock Lane. St Martins House Conference Centre is located first on your left.

From the North

Exit the M1 at Junction 22 and join the A50. Follow the A50 for approx 8 miles, then follow signs for Vaughan Way then follow signs for the A47. You will arrive at a junction with Highcross straight ahead. Take the left lane to avoid the underpass which leads up to St Nicholas Circle and the Holiday Inn hotel. Take the left lane and follow onto Peacock Lane. St Martins House Conference Centre is located first on your left.

By Rail

Leicester is on the East Midlands Mainline route and takes approx 1hr 10min from London St Pancras. A taxi from the station will take approx 10 minutes and cost £5.00. St Martin's House is a 15 minute walk from the main station.

Parking

The closest car park to St Martin's House is an NCP car park at St Nicholas Circle. It is located in the centre of St Nicholas Circle next to the Holiday Inn. We are able to offer a discounted rate for all day parking. Please contact us if you would like to take advantage of this offer.

St Martin's House has limited parking but there are some disabled spaces. Please contact us if you require a disabled parking space.

CONTACT INFORMATION

WOLVES & APPLES VENUE

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