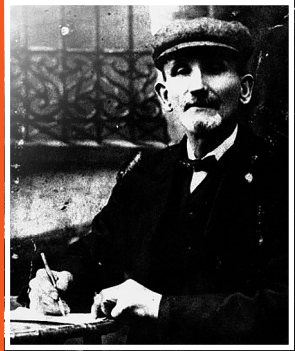


# NORTHERN WRITES



AN EXCITING **FREE** STANLEY-BASED FESTIVAL  
CELEBRATING THE WORK OF "THE PITMAN POET"

## ★ TOMMY ★ ARMSTRONG

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE

THE AWARD - WINNING  
**REG VARDY BAND**

PREMIER BRASS BAND OF NORTH EAST ENGLAND

WITH GUEST APPEARANCE FROM

## RACHEL UNTHANK

SATURDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY • 7.30PM • STANLEY CIVIC THEATRE

MUSIC & POETRY EXTRAVAGANZA

## "WOR TOMMY'S A MAZER"

SATURDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER • 7.30PM • TANFIELD LEA CLUB

PLUS WORKSHOPS, COMPETITIONS AND LOTS MORE

# WHAT IS NORTHERN WRITES?

Recognised as the “Eminem” of his day, Tommy Armstrong remains one of the most exciting voices from this region. Northern Writes gives you the opportunity to hear his work, and welcomes new generations of writers, musicians and poets to share their talents across schools, community centres and on stage and page.

## HOW CAN I TAKE PART?

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO  
RESERVE YOUR FREE TICKETS:

EMAIL  
[ENQUIRIES@INTHEFORGE.COM](mailto:ENQUIRIES@INTHEFORGE.COM)

OR TELEPHONE  
01207 284 515

**TOMMY ARMSTRONG  
CELEBRATION**

**“WOR TOMMY’S  
A MAZER”**

**A FREE NIGHT OF MUSIC AND  
POETRY AT TANFIELD LEA CLUB**

**SATURDAY 19TH NOVEMBER • 7.30PM – 11.00PM**

A fun-packed musical night featuring favourite Armstrong songs. The line-up includes **KIDDAR’S LUCK**, **JUDE MURPHY**, **BILL ELLIOTT**, **ALAN CRAWFORD**, and introduces Newcastle’s own “laugh out loud” performance poet **ROWAN McCABE**, the world’s first “door to door poet.”

**STANLEY EDUCATION CENTRE**

**THE TROUBLE  
WITH  
COMPASSION**

**WEDNESDAY 7TH DECEMBER  
4.00PM • FREE**

The world would be better if people could show more compassion – but it’s hard to be kind to yourself, let alone anyone else... Join spoken word artist **KIRSTEN LUCKINS** for a humorous show about being a better person. May contain poems!

**POLISH UP YOUR OWN SKILLS IN THESE FREE CREATIVE  
WRITING WORKSHOPS AT NORTH DURHAM ACADEMY**



**SATURDAY 12TH NOVEMBER  
11.00AM – 3.00PM**

**BOB BEAGRIE**, a senior lecturer in creative writing at Teesside University and an experienced playwright and poet, leads this first creative writing workshop for experienced and new writers. Bob, who has performed both nationally and internationally, also runs *The Electric Kool-Aid Cabaret of the Spoken Word* in Middlesbrough.



**SATURDAY 10TH DECEMBER  
11.00AM – 3.00PM**

Poet **KIRSTEN LUCKINS** leads the second writing workshop, looking at place, home and identity through the creation of inspirational memory maps. Kirsten is a performer and theatre-maker and is published by Burning Eye Press. She is also the Northern producer for spoken word organisation *Apples and Snakes*.



**SATURDAY 4TH FEBRUARY  
11.00AM – 3.00PM**

Humour and Writing with award-winning poet **ROWAN McCABE**. Try your hand at humour and dialect with self-confessed ambassador for Geordie culture, poet Rowan McCabe, the *Great Northern Slam* winner.

**“MOVES SEAMLESSLY  
FROM HILARIOUS  
ANECDOTE TO POIGNANT  
POEM AND BACK AGAIN”  
– THE JOURNAL**

**S U I T A B L E F O R A D U L T S A N D O V E R 1 6 s**

# NORTHERN WRITES POETRY COMPETITION

# CALLING ALL POETS!

Are you a budding or experienced poet? Feel inspired to write about community, people or places? **THE FORGE**, in collaboration with the **TOMMY ARMSTRONG SOCIETY**, is inviting submissions for the first-ever Northern Writes Poetry Competition.

The judges are looking for originality and authenticity, inspired by Armstrong's own words. Check out [www.pitmanpoet.org.uk](http://www.pitmanpoet.org.uk) for more on Armstrong's work.

**DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES:  
FRIDAY 6TH JANUARY 2017**

*Winning entries will be published online and in a special Northern Writes anthology.*

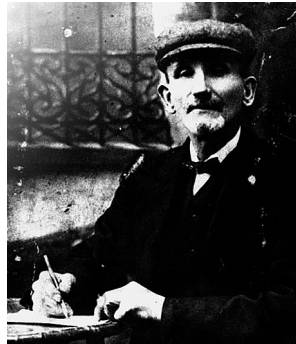
## HOW TO ENTER

Post entries to: **The Forge, Stanley Education Centre, King Edward VIII Terrace, Stanley DH9 0HQ**, or email to [enquiries@intheforge.com](mailto:enquiries@intheforge.com)

**WWW.INTHEFORGE.COM**

**@THEFORGEUK**

**01207 284 515**



## PRIZES

Gift tokens value £100 will be awarded to the winner of each age category:

- **UNDER 11**
- **UNDER 16**
- **ADULT**

## RULES

All poems must be your original work and should not have been previously published.

The length of each poem must not exceed 40 lines.

Up to three poems can be submitted - indicate on each poem the age group you are entering.

Each poem must be typed on one sheet of plain A4 paper or sent as a WORD document attachment. Your name **MUST NOT** appear on the poem.

Entries must be accompanied by a letter containing your name, age and address.

Keep a copy of your poem(s), as manuscripts cannot be returned.

The Forge reserves the right to publish entries and/or use for publicity purposes at any stage in the future.

The decision of the judges is final.



Supported by  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**

The  
**forge**



**North East**