



learning in the community...

News and What's On **April - June 2009**

## Finmill Creative Writing Group

People take up creative writing for many different reasons. Some because they love reading and would like to try their hand at telling their own stories.

Others feel the need to express themselves and are more comfortable writing than doing art, music or drama. Others again want to make sense of things.

Life is sometimes a confusing business and making sense of it can be difficult. Writing can sometimes help to do this.

Creative writing groups can help whatever the reason you want to write. Writing is a solitary activity and being able to talk to other people who are doing the same thing stops it from becoming a lonely pursuit. Groups also help you develop the skills involved much more quickly than you otherwise would and the feedback you receive is invaluable.

**Finmill Creative Writing Group meet on Mondays at 10am until 12noon** and discussions are both interesting and useful. **Phone Alan Fraser on 438641** for more information.

On **June 10th** the group will take part in the **Write Around Dundee** event which is taking place in Central Library. It's a great chance for aspiring writers to take part in workshops by authors. If you are interested in attending this event, please contact **Catrina McNicoll on 435814**. A crèche is provided.

**See participants poetry overleaf**



# Poetry Corner



Sian Roberts

## Assynt by Sian Roberts

A landscape carved by the rain;  
    gouged by ice,  
        blasted by wind,  
            covered by snow.

Rocks moulded by ages, mountains ground to pitted rounded boulders.  
Lone sentinels of grey stone perched atop undulating slopes.  
Streams forcing their way through slanting rocks producing cascading falls as outcrops end.

The history of the land folded, melted, eroded to produce magnificent peaks and deep lochs.  
Lochans reflecting the towering ridges upon their still waters as eagles soar overhead.

Stags pausing for a moment against the skyline: survey their domain before plunging headlong into amber bracken.  
Wind caressing the contours of the landscape making fields of gorse sway.  
Trees become gnarled, bent; their branches pointing like fingers with the wind.

This is a landscape of  
    stone  
        water  
            air  
Sculpted by the seasons,  
            echoing lost aeons of time

This is a landscape where man is but a recent figure; tolerated

This is where the seabird hovers upon an onshore breeze, seals lie secure on small islands, sheep graze, cows roam  
All around, in timeless grace the land flows about you, demanding awe and respect, for this nature in all its majesty.





## A Writers Flight of Fancy by Irene Haggart

The curl and swoop of language creates an urge to write  
telling tales, reciting poems, it's a dance of birds in flight  
scrawling across the parchment, blotting clouds of ink  
elated as wings and words soar, no pause for time to think

Inspired with wild imaginings, when flocks with dotted eyes  
head with ancient instinct, to warmer sun-filled skies  
Setting off like arrows, neat spaces in between  
If only they could write about the wonders that they've seen!



Irene Haggart

Activity	Venue	Day/Time	Date	Contact Details
Book Group	Charleston Community Centre	Last Monday each month 2-3pm	Ongoing	Mary Ritchie Tel: 436723
Communications (Study Support Group)	Charleston Community Centre	Mondays 1-3pm	Date to be confirmed	Mary Ritchie Tel: 436723
 Creative Writing Taster	Menzieshill Community Centre	Thursday 1.30 - 3pm	7th - 28th May	Catriona McNicoll Tel: 432967
Creative Writing Group	Charleston Community Centre	Tuesday 1-3pm	Ongoing	Mary Ritchie Tel: 436723
 Family History Taster	Menzieshill Community Centre	Thursday 9.30 - 11.30am	7th May - 11th June	Catriona McNicoll Tel: 432967
Local History Group	Lochee Club House	Thursday 7-9pm	Ongoing	Ron Birrell 431836
Numeracy	Lochee Library	Wednesday 2-4pm	Ongoing	Ron Birrell 431836
 Introduction to Social Care	Menzieshill Community centre	Monday 1-3pm	Starts 11th May	Annette Miller Tel: 432973
Write your Child's Story	Lochee Library	Tuesday 10am-12noon	Ongoing	Ron Birrell 431836
Time for Me - For busy mums!	Charleston Community Centre	Tuesday 9.30 - 11.30am	Ongoing	Mary Ritchie Tel: 436723
 Options & Choices	Are you thinking about planning your future, work, education or getting involved in your community? Then this course is where to start. Starts Tuesday 21st April, 1.15 - 3.00pm. Venue in Lochee to be confirmed.			Ron Birrell 431836
Computing/ECDL	Classes for <b>unemployed parents</b> -Thursdays & Fridays 10am-12noon at Charleston Community Centre			Julia Fraser Tel: 432947
Jobshops	Lochee Library, Fridays 9.30am - 12noon Menzieshill Community Centre Thursdays from 1.30pm Charleston Community Centre, Fridays 9.30am-12.30pm			Annette Miller Tel: 432973 Ron Birrell 431836
Guidance	At various locations for <b>unemployed parents</b> looking for help to return to training, education & employment. Phone to make an appointment			Julia Fraser Tel: 432947 Mob:07852278509
Guidance	At various locations for <b>anyone</b> looking for help to return to training, education & employment.			Annette Miller Tel: 432973


Activity	Venue	Day/Time	Date	Contact Details
Basic Skills	Highwayman	Tuesday 9.30 - 11.30am	Ongoing	Joyce Guthrie Tel: 436415
<b>New!</b> Complementary Therapies	Stobswell Church Hall	Tuesday 1-3pm	12th May - 30th June	Kim Robertson Tel: 435872
<b>New!</b> Healthy Cooking	Park Avenue Hall	Wednesday 1-3pm	6 May - 17th June	Liz Allardice Tel: 435827
Creative Writing	Kandahar House	Monday 11am-1pm	Fortnightly	Kim Robertson Tel: 435872
Hilltown Writers Group	Highwayman	Wednesday 1.30 - 3.30pm	Ongoing	Kim Robertson Tel: 435872
Jobshop	Unit 12, Manhattan Works	Tuesday 2-5pm	Ongoing	Colin Christie Tel: 436415
Knit & Craft Group	Highwayman	Wednesday 10am -1pm	Ongoing	Highwayman 432107
Mosaic Group	Highwayman	Thursday 9.30-11.30am	Ongoing	Highwayman 432107
<b>New!</b> Psychology for Care	Stobswell Church Hall	Tuesday 9.30 - 12noon	21 April - 7th July	Colin Christie Tel: 436415
ECDL/Computing	Classes for <b>unemployed Parents</b> - Tuesdays 10am-12noon & Thursdays 10am-12noon & 1-3pm. Take place in Central Library.			Nidhi Sharma Tel:435817
<b>New!</b> Write Around Dundee Event	Central Library on Wednesday 10th June 9.30am-3pm. For aspiring writers to take part in workshops by established authors. Crèche is provided. <b>Booking is essential.</b>			Catriona McNicoll Tel: 435814
Guidance	Various locations for <b>Ethnic Minority Parents</b> looking for help to return to training, learning & employment.			Nidhi Sharma Tel:435817
Guidance	Various locations for <b>anyone</b> looking for help to return to training, learning & employment.			Colin Christie Tel: 436415
Community Garden Group	New members welcome. Garden is located in Law Crescent.			Joyce Guthrie Tel: 436415
<b>New!</b> Just the Job	If you are looking for work and English is your second language, you will learn how to improve your CVs, application form filling, interview skills etc			Colin Christie Tel: 436415 Kim Robertson Tel: 435872

**Basic Computing Classes**  
Phone 666665  
for more information

**Jobshop**  
helps you with whatever you need to get that job...vacancies, CVs etc.

# South West

The West End • Nethergate & The Perth Road • Logie/Blackness

Activity	Venue	Day/Time	Date	Contact Details
Arts and Crafts	Mitchell Street Centre	Monday 1-3pm	Starts 27th April	Sheila Rousel Tel: 435814
Feel Good about Yourself	Mitchell Street Centre	Thursday 10am-12noon	30th April - 4th June	Dorothy Potter Tel: 435827
 Walk & Talk	Mitchell Street Centre	Wednesday 10am-12noon	Starts 6th May	Dorothy Potter Tel: 435827
Bilingual Families Group	Dundee West, 132 Perth Road	Thursday 10am-12noon	23rd April - 25th June	Sheila Rousel Tel: 435814
Guidance	Various locations for <b>anyone</b> looking for help to return to training, learning & employment. Phone to make an appointment.			Kim Robertson Tel: 435872


# East End and the Ferry

Balgillo • Barnhill • West Ferry • Central Broughty Ferry • Douglas • Mid Craigie • Linlathen • Craigiebank

Activity	Venue	Day/Time	Date	Contact Details
Application Form Filling	Hub Library & Community Centre	Wednesday 2.00 - 4.30pm	Ongoing	Claire Shepherd Tel: 438643
Jobshop	Hub Library & Community Centre	Friday 9.30 - 1.30pm	Ongoing	Claire Shepherd Tel: 438643
 Childcare Course	Hub Library & Community Centre	To be confirmed	To be confirmed	Claire Shepherd Tel: 438643
Guidance	Various locations for <b>anyone</b> looking for help to return to training, learning & employment.			Claire Shepherd Tel: 438643
Local History Groups	Broughty Ferry Library- Fortnightly on Thursdays 2 - 3.30pm, Douglas Community Centre- Wednesdays 10am-12noon, The Hub - Fridays 2.00-3.30pm			Alistair Cameron Tel: 436942

# North East

Whitfield • Fintry • Dalclaverhouse • Mill O'Mains

Activity	Venue	Day/Time	Date	Contact Details
Creative Writing	Finmill Centre	Monday 10.30 - 12.00	Ongoing	Alan Fraser Tel:438641
 Forensics	Finmill Centre	Tuesday 1-3pm	To be confirmed	Alan Fraser Tel:438641
Local History Group	Whitfield Community Library	Thursday 9.30 - 12noon	Ongoing	Alistair Cameron Tel: 436942
Plants & Gardens	Finmill Centre	Thursday 1-3pm	Ongoing	Alan Fraser Tel:438641

# North West

Ardler • St Mary's/Brackens • Kirkton • Downfield/Dales •

Activity	Venue	Day/Time	Date	Contact Details
<b>New!</b> Creative Writing Taster	Kirkton Community Centre	Monday 1.30 - 3pm	Starts 20th April	Catriona McNicoll Tel: 436314
<b>New!</b> Hair & Beauty Taster	Kirkton Community Centre	To be confirmed	Starts in May	Teresa Fulton Tel: 436314
<b>New!</b> Family History	Ardler	Monday 1-3pm	20th April - 15th June	Caroline Bairner Tel: 432862
Reiki	Ardler Complex	Tuesday 1-3pm	21st April - 30th June	Caroline Bairner Tel: 432862
Stepping Stones	Ardler Complex	Wednesday 1.00- 3.30pm	22nd April - 10th June	Caroline Bairner Tel: 432862
<b>New!</b> Computing ECDL	Classes for <b>unemployed Parents</b> - Ardler Complex 10am - 12noon			Julia Fraser Tel: 432947
Open Learning Support Drop-in	St Mary's Centre - Wednesdays 9.30am - 12.30pm Ardler Complex - Thursdays 9.30am - 12noon			Caroline Bairner Tel: 432862
Guidance	Various locations in Kirkton, Ardler & St Mary's for <b>anyone</b> looking for help to return to training, learning & employment.			Caroline Bairner Tel: 432862 Teresa Fulton Tel: 436314
Jobshop	St Mary's Centre - Wednesdays 1.30 - 3.30pm Ardler Complex - Fridays 9.30am - 12noon Kirkton Community Centre - Fridays 9.30am-12noon			Caroline Bairner Tel: 432862 Teresa Fulton Tel: 436314

Some of our activities are run in partnership with other departments and organisations. Details will be available at enrolment.

For all general enquiries contact **Catriona McNicoll** on 435814 or email [catriona.mcnicoll@dundee.gov.uk](mailto:catriona.mcnicoll@dundee.gov.uk)

**Childcare** is available for many of our courses. Must be booked in advance.



We can provide this information in large print or in another format that meets your needs.	
Chinese	欲知詳情，請致電：01382 431563
Russian	Более подробную информацию можно получить позвонив по телефону: 01382 431563
Urdu	مزید معلومات کے لئے برائے مہربانی 01382 431563 پھون کریں۔
Polish	po dalszą informację zadzwoń pod numer 01382 431563
Other formats	For more information please phone 01382 434503.