

The Poetry Kit

ISSN 1468-3075

Managing Editor: [Jim Bennett](#)

THE POETRY KIT NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2010

NEWSLETTER CONTENTS

[Editors Notes](#)

[1 - Stats](#)

[2 - Featured Sites](#)

[3 - Books and Mags](#)

[4 - Announcements and news](#)

[5 - Special events this month](#)

[6 - Competitions closing soon](#)

[7 - Calls for Submissions](#)

[8 - Poetry Courses](#)

[9 - Writers Services](#)

EDITORS NOTES

Submitting information to The Poetry Kit

To enable the contents and usefulness of the Poetry Kit Newsletter to grow we put it out as an attachment. It will still arrive every month in an email but the bulk of the newsletter itself will be in the attachment. To submit information for inclusion in any area of The Poetry Kit including the Newsletter please see submission details at <http://www.poetrykit.org/infoform.htm>

Distributing This Newsletter

This newsletter may be distributed freely provided that no charge is made, and information about its origin remains intact.

The Poetry Kit Newsletter, distributed by e-mail on the 1st of every month, provides news from the poetry world, and competition deadlines for the coming months. Fuller details of these and much

more can be seen by visiting The Poetry Kit website
at <http://www.poetrykit.org/>

* To subscribe, send an e-mail to

jiscmail@jiscmail.ac.uk with the following
message

- join pk-newsletter (your name),

or visit The Poetry Kit home page and follow the
Newsletter link.

* If you no longer wish to receive your copy, send
an e-mail to jiscmail@jiscmail.ac.uk with the
following message

- leave pk-newsletter, or visit The Poetry Kit home
page and follow the Newsletter link.

* This newsletter may be distributed freely provided
that no charge is made, and information about its
origin remains intact. Please direct all news and
queries to info@poetrykit.org

Poetry Kit on-line courses and tutorials For details of available courses -
<http://www.poetrykit.org/pkcourses.htm>

1 - POETRY KIT NEWSLETTER - SITE STATISTICS

September 2010 - Over 485,000 unique visitors

2 - POETRY KIT FEATURED SITES

HIGHLIGHTED WEBSITES

HIGHLIGHTED WEBSITES

Linton Kwesi Johnson

<http://lister.ultrakohl.com/Homepage/LKJ/lkj.htm>

Ros Barber

<http://www.rosbarber.com/>

Kate Fox

<http://www.katefox.co.uk/>

BLOGS

A Lump in the Throat

<http://alumpinthethroat.wordpress.com/>

Anny Ballardini Blogspot

<http://annyballardini.blogspot.com/>

Ink Sweat and Tears

<http://www.ink-sweat-and-tears.com/>

TED SLADE AWARD WINNER 2010

Andy Croft

<http://www.smokestack-books.co.uk/>

These sites are just a few of the many thousands of sites we check each month The Poetry Kit listing of Poets on the Internet shows sites that have been awarded Poetry Kit Awards. Each month one of the links in the two above sections is changed, so that once selected a link will be in up to three newsletters.

Poetry Kit Bookshop Buying your books, CD's and DVD,s through the Amazon links at Poetry Kit earns Poetry Kit a small commission and helps towards our running costs and provides an occasional prize for our own competitions.

POETRY KIT BOOKSHOP <http://www.poetrykit.org/howto.htm>

POETRY KITe - <http://www.poetrykit.org/blog.htm>

3 - BOOKS AND MAGAZINES

2River has just now released the 15.1 (Fall 2010) issue of *The 2River View*,

with new poems by Brendan Constantine, Jeff Friedman, Howie Good, Georgia Kreiger, Marjorie Maddox, Shireen Madon, Jane McKinley, Michael K. Meyers, Charles Rafferty, Steven Schreiner, and Virginia Slachman; and art by Mark Flowers.

www.2River.org

issue 13 of streetcake is now live on the site!

<http://www.streetcakemagazine.com/files/issue%2013%20streetcake.pdf>

4 - ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWS

Kate Fox is touring with her new show

the Sunday Telegraph gave it four stars and said it was "a funny and affecting autobiographical show".

The tour dates are on her website www.katefox.co.uk and there are 11 dates between now and January.

Write Out Loud's BIG Weekend!

It runs from Friday, 15th to Sunday, 17th October and is being held in the beautiful West Yorkshire town of Hebden Bridge (which is worth a visit just by itself), you'll be staying in hostel accommodation (in shared, single-sex rooms), but don't let that word 'hostel' put you off, this is a wonderful place to stay - have a look for yourself:

www.hebdenbridgehostel.co.uk

And the **bargain price of £50** we have negotiated for you (£30 if you arrange your own accommodation) includes your accommodation, your meals, all the workshops, and entertainment in the evenings.

To reserve your place, send your cheque (made payable to 'Write Out Loud') and full contact details to: Sean Kavanagh, 6 John Barker Street, Todmorden OL14 8HF

And if you want further information you can contact Sean by 'phone on 01706 812092 or by email at bigsjgk@googlemail.com

Call for Next Northern Lines event 15th poetry and prose speaking event at the Lit & Phil, Newcastle

Mon 15 November 2010 from 18:30 to 20:30

There are 20 slots to fill. Those selected will go into an anthology for the night. But even if you don't win a slot, we will try our best to put all our contributors into the anthology anyway. (This is a one-off opportunity.) There will be folk music and a glass of wine available in the interval. We welcome poems: max 30 lines; extracts from prose work (400 words); and script (that can be condensed into three pages); also pictures/visuals that enhance the text. Contributions should be your own unpublished work.

Email no more than 3 poems or a couple of pieces of prose, and perhaps a couple of lines about yourself. Avoid formatting. Single space and put your name at the end of each poem. Send as an attachment or in the body of the email.

We also need 'listeners.' Come along. Listening to poetry is as much of a creative act as writing it. We need your contribution, too!

Send your contributions to: Charles Gardiner, The Editor,
Gardiner44@aol.com

Creative Writing - Poetry Open Studies Certificate, Centre of Lifelong Learning Warwick University

A course to provide you with the inspiration, tools and redrafting skills to write memorable, original poems. Suitable for both those new to poetry and experienced writers. You will have the chance to explore different ways to trigger new ideas, experiment with poetic forms and techniques and discover how to edit and shape your poems in a relaxed, supportive environment.

Tutor: Sally Clark

Location: Warwick University Campus

A weekly class from Autumn 2010 - Summer 2011 over 25 weeks. Monday Evenings 19.00 - 21.00

The course leads to 30 credits at FHEQ Level 4.

Start date: Monday 18th October

End: End of June 2011

5 - SPECIAL EVENTS

- for access information see listing at www.poetrykit.org

There is a full listing of regularly held events and festivals from around the world at the Poetry kit website.

To have you events listed send details to info@poetrykit.org

North Tyneside	6th October	ATTENTION! POETS ON THE ROAD! Everybody's talking about spoken word. And now five of the nation's finest poets are putting on a show in sunny North Shields. If you like your poetry punchy, physical, sexy
---------------------------	-----------------------------------	---

		<p>and laugh-out-loud – or if you just want to clap eyes on Middlesbrough’s Invisible Poet – then hop onto the Metro and mosey along to Public Address.</p> <p>We present:</p> <p>Poetry’s Angel of the North-East, Mike Edwards Sizzling and saucy London lass Saran Green Irrepressible funster from the South-East, Mark Niel The South-West’s verbal choreographer Hannah Silva In the West Midlands corner, boxer poet Matt Windle And hosted by Tyneside’s spoken-word star Jeff Price</p> <p>When: Wednesday 6 October @ 8pm Where: Saville Exchange, Howard Street, North Tyneside, NE30 2SE Tickets: £5 / £3 Booking: 0191 643709 www.northtyneside.gov.uk/arts Info: www.applesandsnakes.org.uk</p>
Taunton	7th October	<p>An informal evening of poetry and discussion in the friendly atmosphere of a poetry cafe. Thursday 7 October 2010 starting at 8.00 pm and finishing at 10.00 pm. To be held in The Studio at The Brewhouse, Coal Orchard, Taunton, Somerset TA1 1JL (01823 283244 or info@thebrewhouse.net).</p> <p>The cafe features as its guest the chairman of Fire River Poets, John Stuart who will read from his published and new work but also answer questions and debate issues with members of the audience (www.fireriverpoets.org.uk).</p> <p>He will also invite poets in the audience to read their own work so bring along a poem or two! The venue is fully accessible for disabled.</p>
Gateshead	7th October	<p>Monkfish Productions: National Poetry Day Special Event Poetry Booth* Thursday 7 October @The Shed, High St South, Gateshead NE8 1EN 7-9pm (Free)</p> <p>Just in time for National Poetry Day Monkfish Productions launches their shiny new Poetry Booth! This is a unique travelling poetic portal like no other! Come and share your poems, stories or thoughts for the day Come and bring your musings on the theme of Home (this year's</p>

		<p>NP Day theme) Or enjoy a free glass of wine or juice in The Shed's foyer space</p> <p>We will have friendly Poetry Booth attendants and writing ideas to get your creative juices flowing. This is YOUR chance to record your work in the booth!</p> <p>For more info www.bit.ly/wordtank</p>
Whitley Bay	10th October	<p>FREE AS A BARD - Poetry & Music at the Coast</p> <p>The next <i>Free as a Bard</i> event is on Sunday October 10 at The Trojan Rooms, 26, South Parade Whitley Bay NE26 2R6, starts 8pm, costs £3.00 on the door. Free fresh fruit!</p> <p>POETS Joan Hewitt - <i>Tynemouth based poet and lecturer, recent collection from Cinnamon Press.</i> S.J.Litherland - <i>One of the few NE poets with collections from Flambard, IRON and Bloodaxe</i> Scott Tyrrell - <i>Among this region's most original and funniest poets</i> Mike Wilkin - <i>The 'forgotten' NE poet. One of 10 chosen by Bloodaxe in the 80s, but where since?</i></p> <p>MUSIC Women of Mass Distraction - <i>Unique acapellas!</i> The Creels- <i>The Proclaimers meet The Everley Brothers!</i></p>
London	14th October	<p>An evening of readings by Arc poets and translators Shanta Acharya, George Hyde, Lorna Thorpe & Jackie Wills</p> <p>Thu 14 Oct / £5 (£3 concs) / 8pm</p> <p>Lauderdale House Highgate Hill Waterlow park London N6 5HG</p> <p>Shanta Acharya was born and educated in India and won a scholarship to Oxford. George Hyde was born in Scotland in 1941 where he read English at Cambridge under the direction of F. R. Leavis. Lorna Thorpe's debut publication <i>Dancing to Motown</i> was a Poetry Book Society pamphlet choice. Jackie Wills has published four collections of poetry; the most recent is <i>Commandments</i>.</p>

<p>Croydon</p>	<p>16th October</p>	<p>Poets Anonymous - are celebrating 20 years of poetry with the 10th POETRY PLUS FESTIVAL</p> <p>Saturday, 16 October 2010 10.30am – 8.00pm</p> <p>CVA Resource Centre, 82 London Road, Croydon CR0 2TB</p> <p>featuring:</p> <p>Emile Sercombe, Myra Schneider, Janice Fixter, Poets Anonymous, Poetry Workshops, the return of the Aeronautical Poetry Competition, Music, Floor Poets, and yourself.</p> <p>Cost is £10 for the day, £7.50 Concessions. £2.50 for the Poetry Workshops (spaces are limited for the workshops)</p> <p>An entry form can be printed from Poetry Plus 10</p> <p>Further details from poets@poetsanon.org.uk</p>
<p>Chester</p>	<p>18th October</p>	<p>ZEST! Open Floor Poetry, Chester - start at 8:00 pm. We always try to feature a guest poet for about 20minutes, and then open the floor to all comers. Bring your own, or a favourite poem to read or simply enjoy listening</p> <p>Monday 18 October 2010 Guest Poet: Gill Mc Evoy Compère: Leih Steggall</p> <p>Where: £3/£2 at Alexander's jazz theatrebar, Rufus Court, off Northgate St, Chester CH1 2JG. Food available - see www.alexanderslive.com How to find Zest!: On Northgate, look for Chez Jules then Abbey Green alleyway opposite leading to Rufus Court - "The Creative Quarter". Getting there: Chester Station - 20 mins' walk. Bus station: 5 mins' walk, City Council parking is free after 3pm. Zest! Team: Gill McEvoy, Leih Steggall, Judy Ugonna (Enquiries to Judy.Ugonna@gmail.com)</p>
<p>London</p>	<p>18th October</p>	<p>Produced in partnership with Poet in the City and Apples & Snakes SPOKEN WORD ALL STARS TOUR Monday 18 October, 7pm Tickets: £11.50/ £9.50 online SPOKEN WORD ALL STARS is exactly what it says on the tin: a stellar cast of talent from the UK's live poetry scene performing an original live</p>

		<p>show alongside one globally acclaimed musician - the sophisticated saxman, Jason Yarde.</p> <p>Featuring: El Crisis, Kate Tempest, OneNess, Ventriloquist, Kat Francois and Jason Yarde.</p> <p>Hall One, Kings Place, 90 York Way, London N1 9AG</p> <p>Info: www.kingsplace.co.uk / 020 7520 1490</p>
London	20th October	<p>Apples & Snakes presents</p> <p>PUBLIC ADDRESS @ JAWDANCE</p> <p>Wednesday 20 October, 7.30pm</p> <p>Tickets: FREE</p> <p>Time to sashay into Rich Mix, toss your chapeau to the hatcheck girl, and spend the evening swinging your swizzle-stick to the superb sound of spoken word. Not only poets in the flesh, but also poetic film-shorts. This months session is an extra special one - we are hosting the London leg of Apples & Snakes <i>Public Address</i> tour, special guest poets – not to be missed.</p> <p>Rich Mix, 35 – 47 Bethnal Green Road, London, E1 6LA</p> <p>www.richmix.org.uk / 020 7613 7498 / www.applesandsnakes.org</p>
London	21st - 22nd October	<p>Apples & Snakes and Birmingham Repertory Theatre present</p> <p>REMEMBERERS PREVIEW</p> <p>Thursday 21 & Friday 22 October, 1.30pm & 7.30pm</p> <p>Tickets: £8 / £6 concessions / £5 schools</p> <p>A live hip-hop graphic novel written & performed by Kenny Baraka.</p> <p>A classic tale of good versus evil, told through rap narration, lyrics, projection, music and graphic novel illustration. With the planets vital signs weakening, the Rememberers can wait no longer to battle against the sinister NorCon Corporation lead by the demonic Don Marquis, in order to save planet earth.</p> <p>Ages 13+</p> <p>The Albany, Douglas Way, Deptford, London, SE8 4AG</p> <p>Box office: 020 8692 4446 / www.thealbany.org.uk</p>
Swindon	23rd October	<p>Andrew Barber's book launch and signing for his poetry collection 'Reflections from a Broken Mirror'. Sat 23rd October 2010 from 11am-2pm Waterstones, 14-16 Brunel Plaza, Swindon. Andrew Barber was 2009 Poetry Rivals Slam Champion</p>
London	27th October	<p>Apples & Snakes presents</p> <p>A&S IN SOHO: Ben Okri</p> <p>Weds 27 October, 8pm</p> <p>Tickets: £8 / £6</p> <p>Ben Okri – poet, playwright, Booker-winning novelist – presents a characteristically captivating cross-section of his finest work.</p> <p>Plus special guests to be announced, book early for this one!</p> <p>Soho Theatre, 21 Dean St, London W1D 3NE</p> <p>Booking: 020 7478 0100 / www.sohotheatre.com</p>
London	30th October	<p>David Constantine at Poetry East</p> <p>7.30pm Saturday, October 30th, 2010.</p> <p>Venue: London Buddhist Centre, 51 Roman Road, London, E2 0HU</p>

		<p>Entry: £7</p> <p>Poetry East</p> <p>Showcasing the work of well-known contemporary poets, exploring the relationship between poetry and spiritual life. The evening consists in a short led meditation, an interview with the poet, and a reading.</p> <p>This month's event features David Constantine. David Constantine is a poet, translator and novelist. He won the Alice Hunt Bartlett Award for his <i>Selected Poems</i>, and his translation of Hölderlin's <i>Selected Poems</i> won the European Poetry Translation Prize. He was shortlisted for the Forward Prize for best single poem in 2004, the year that Bloodaxe published his <i>Collected Poems</i>. His latest books are a collection of poetry, <i>Nine Fathom Deep</i> (2009) and a second short story collection, <i>The Shieling</i> (2009). He is a Fellow of Queen's College, Oxford.</p> <p>Nearest tube Bethnal Green www.poetryeast.net</p>
--	--	---

6 - COMPETITION DEADLINES - OTHER COMPETITIONS CAN BE FOUND AT
<http://www.poetrykit.org/comps.htm>
SEE POETRY KIT LISTINGS PAGE FOR SHORT STORY COMPETITIONS

er 2010	1st £500	<p>the ESRC Genomics Forum at the University of Edinburgh, in partnership with the Scottish Poetry Library, is running a poetry competition for poems inspired by genomics.</p> <p>A selection of the winning and shortlisted poems will be published in a special publication of the Scottish Poetry Library in 2010. First prize - first prize £500, second prize £200, third prize £100, entry is free The Scottish Poetry Library will host an evening of poetry readings based on the winning entries.</p> <p>For further details and rules, see http://www.genomicsnetwork.ac.uk/esrcgenomicsnetwork/news/latestnews/title,23732,en.html</p>
	Entry free	
er 2010	1st £1000	<p>troubadour international poetry prize</p> <p>judged by gwyneth lewis & maurice riordan with both judges reading all poems</p> <p>prizes: 1st £1000, 2nd £500, 3rd £250 & 20 prizes of £20 each</p>

	entry £5	<p><i>plus a spring 2011 coffee-house poetry season ticket and a prizewinners' coffee-house poetry with gwyneth lewis & maurice riordan on mon 29th nov 2010 ...for all prize-winning poets submissions by fri 15th oct 2010</i></p> <p>Fees: All entries must be accompanied by fee of EITHER £5/€/\$8 per poem, if fewer than 4 £4/€/\$7 per poem if 4 or more poems submitted; payment by cheque or money order (Sterling, Dollars only) payable to "Coffee-House Poetry" with poet's name (and/or e-mail Entry Acknowledgement Reference, if appropriate) written on back.</p> <p>By Post: No entry form required; each poem must be typed on one side of A4 white paper showing poem only; do not show author's name or any other identifying marks on submitted poems; include separate page showing Name, Address, Phone, E-Mail (opt), Titles and Number of Poems EITHER £5/€/\$8 each OR @ £4/€/\$7 each; no staples; no Special Delivery, Recorded Delivery or Registered Post; entries are not returned.</p> <p>By E-mail: No entry form required; poems must be submitted in body of e-mail (no attachments) to CoffPoetry@aol.com; entries should be preceded by Name, Address, Phone, Titles and Number of Poems EITHER @ £5/€/\$8 each OR @ £4/€/\$7 each; acknowledgement will be sent to entrant's e-mail address showing Entry Acknowledgement Reference; send payment by post within 14 days of acknowledgement; e-mail entries will be included only when payment received by post by Special Delivery, Recorded Delivery or Registered Post.</p> <p>Deadline: All postal entries, and postal payments for e-mail entries, to arrive at Troubadour Prize, Coffee-House Poetry, PO Box 16210, LONDON, W4 1ZP postmarked on or before 15th October 2010. Prizewinners will be notified individually by Monday 22nd November 2010. The prize ceremony will be on Monday 29th November 2010 at <i>Coffee-House Poetry at the Troubadour</i> in Ealing, London.</p>
er 2010	1st £125 entry 3	<p>Indigo Dreams - IDP Annual Poetry Awards 2010 1st Place £125, 2nd Place £50, 3rd Place £25 Entry Fee £3 per poem; £10 per 4 poems; £22 per 10 poems Any subject or style. Max 36 lines single spaced poems. Closing Date: Friday 15th October 2010 Adjudicators: Ronnie Goodyer / Dawn Bauling No name on poems but covering sheet with titles name and address. Cheques to 'IDP' Submit to Indigo Dreams, 132 Hinckley Road, Stoney Stanton, LE9 4LN Queries <i>with sae</i> to above address or publishing@indigodreams.co.uk Email submissions / PayPal go to www.indigodreams.co.uk</p>
er 2010	1st ?? entry £3	<p>The Big Issue in the North presents The Big Scribble Theme:Home Deadline: 18th October Max 40 lines Prize: Publication in the Big Issue in the North with interview, and on website. Other prizes to be announced. Judges: Peter Kalu Entry fee: Minimum £3 donation per poem, all money raised goes to The Big Issue in the North How to enter: Online at www.justgiving.com/bigscribble or send cheque and poem to The Big Issue, 10 Swan Street, Manchester, M4 5JN Contact: Jane.logan@thebiglifecompany.com</p>

er 2010	1st value £150	Envoi open poetry competition – Single poem: £3 or 5 poems £12 to ‘cinnamon’ Prizes: poetry books to the value of £150, £100 & £50 + 3 runner up subscriptions details separate sheet. Submissions by post or email Jan Fortune-Wood, Meirion Glan yr afon, Tanygrisiau, Blaenau Ffestiniog, Gwynedd, LL41 3SU. jan@envoipoetry.co.uk Full guidelines and online fee payment at competitions page: www.envoipoetry.co.uk
er 2010	1st £300 entry £3	Ragged Raven Press 13th Poetry Competition for poems of any length and on any subject. First prize £300, four runners-up prizes of £50. Selected entries published in anthology. Entry fee: £3 per poem for 4 poems. Deadline: October 31 st , 2010. Entry form/details from www.raggedraven.co.uk or 1 Lodge Farm, Snitterfield, Stratford-on-Avon, Warks CV37 0LR.
er 2010	1st ?? entry £4	Plough Prize for Poetry 2010 Entries are invited in three categories: Open Poem (up to 40 lines) Short Poem (up to 10 lines) Children (length unrestricted) Entry Fee: £4.00 per poem; block of four entries, £14; thereafter £3.50 each; tick-box crit £6; first prize £100 For further details contact; The Plough Prize, The Plough Arts Centre, 9-11 Fore Street, Torrington, Devon EX12 8HQ or see website: www.theploughprize.co.uk
er 2010	1st £5000	National Poetry Competition Now in its 33 rd year, the Poetry Society’s National Poetry Competition is one of the world’s biggest and most prestigious poetry competitions. Winners include both established and emerging poets and the prize has proved an important milestone in their professional careers. Add your name to a list of past winners that includes Carol Ann Duffy, Ian Duhig, Philip Gross, and Jo Shapcott – and have your work published in the Poetry Society’s leading international journal, <i>Poetry Review</i> . The judges this year are poets George Szirtes, Deryn Rees-Jones and Sinéad Morrissey. The prizes are: £5,000 for the overall winner, £2,000 for the second, £1,000 for the third and seven commendations of £100. The deadline is 31 October. Enter online or download an entry form at www.poetrysociety.org.uk

7 - CALLS FOR SUBMISSIONS

15th October 2010	Rem Magazine Editor, Orchid Tierney
-------------------------	---

	<p>www.remmagazine.net</p> <p>A biannual ezine, specialising in experimental poetry (free-verse, concrete and visual), cultural essays, fiction and art. No reading fees. Simultaneous submissions welcome. We read all year round but to be considered for the November 2010 issue, submissions must be in by the 15th October 2010. We favour innovative and thought provoking works that go beyond aesthetics.</p> <p>Email: submissions@remmagazine.net</p>
22nd October 2010	<p>Tellus is calling for submissions for its second issue, a magazine celebrating contemporary poetry which engages with ancient civilisations (Roman, Greek, Egyptian, Babylonian ...) and brings them to new life. Submissions are free and the deadline is October 22nd 2010. Issue 2 will feature a focus section on the myth of Orpheus and Eurydice and submissions on this theme are encouraged.</p> <p>www.tellusmagazine.co.uk.</p>

8 - COURSES

Poetry Foundation

Next course start date	1st Monday in each Month
Following start date	3rd Monday in each month

The Course - This foundation course in writing poetry takes the participant through some of the basic processes of writing poetry with lots of practical examples and

writing exercises. The purpose of the course is to allow the participant to explore many aspects of writing poetry and to introduce them to a wider reading and understanding.

The course will look at modern free form poetry and several set forms including

the sonnet. This course has been introduced to enable those who are relatively new to poetry to develop their skill and to learn more about contemporary poetry.

Qualifications required - People wishing to take this course do not require any previous qualifications, they do however need to have an interest in the craft of writing poetry and a determination to improve their writing and produce successful poems.

Fee - The course fee is £45 (UK£)

For more information email - courses@poetrykit.org

Poetry 1

Next course start date	1st Monday in each Month
Following start date	3rd Monday in each month

The Course - This course in writing poetry takes the participant through some of the basic processes of writing poetry in an entertaining and interesting way. Through a series of set exercises, discussions and critique sessions, backed up with talks, notes and feedback. The purpose of the course is to allow the participant to build their skills of observation and clarity of language while at the same time allowing their individual voice and technique to develop. Through an integrated use of internet technology each course builds into a small community of poets who learn in a supportive and challenging environment, learning to give and take critique.

The course looks at a variety of styles and forms of poetry which will allow the participant to build a sound knowledge of some of the technical terms while utilising them in a practical and interesting way. The course includes elements relating to preparing and submitting poems for publication, reading poems and presenting them in a live setting, revising poetry and editing.

Qualifications required - People wishing to take this course do not require any previous qualifications, they do however need to have an interest in the craft of writing poetry and a determination to improve their writing and produce successful poems.

Fee - The course fee is £70 (UK£)

For more information email - courses@poetrykit.org

Poetry 2

Next course start date	2nd Monday in each Month
Following start date	2nd Monday in each Month

The Course - This course in writing poetry takes the participant on from the point of Poetry 1 and is intended for those with some experience at writing and who wish to develop their skills further. The objectives of the course are achieved through exercises designed to introduce new concepts in writing and stretch the participant, discussions and critique sessions, backed up with talks, notes, support and feedback. The purpose of the course is to allow the participant to build their skills of observation and clarity of language while at the same time allowing their individual voice and technique to develop. The course looks at a variety of styles and forms of poetry which will allow the participant to build a sound knowledge of some of the technical terms while utilising them in a practical and interesting way. The course includes elements relating to preparing and submitting poems for publication, reading poems and presenting them in a live setting, revising poetry and editing.

Qualifications required - People wishing to take this course do not require any previous qualifications, they do however need to be able to identify themselves as writers with some experience. Those who have previously taken the Poetry Kit Poetry 1 course will find this a natural development.

Fee - The course fee is £80 (UK£)

For more information email - courses@poetrykit.org

Poetry Kit runs a full range of interesting and challenging courses. In addition to those listed above there are other courses including Script writing and The Poetry of Bob Dylan. For a more complete listing of courses and availability please see

<http://www.poetrykit.org/pkcourses.htm>

9 - WRITERS SERVICES

PLEASE NOTE Poetry Kit does not accept paid advertising or exchange links. All listed services are listed because we believe they offer a good reliable service. There is no charge made or expected for listing at Poetry Kit.

Poetry Kit on-line courses and critique service. For details see <http://www.poetrykit.org/pkcourses.htm>

POETRY KIT CRITIQUE SERVICE

Critique and close reading of up to 10 poems

(some limitation in respect of word and line length may mean this figure is reduced if the poems are longer)

This is an individual critique service available from Jim Bennett, allowing those using the service to send 10 poems and have them individually critiqued by Jim who is an internationally known, prize-winning poet. By sending poems over a period of time the participant can use the service to develop their skills and to get feedback on their progress.

Fee - The fee for this service is £30 (UK£)

Contact courses@poetrykit.org for further information

A SPECIAL OFFER FROM DAN MASTERSON - P O E T R Y M A S T E R ~Good Poems Made Better~

Send 4-book poet Dan Masterson a one-page poem of your own making, and he'll comment on it free of charge. Thereafter you may continue working with him on a fee basis if you wish (and receive a \$10 discount for those receiving this mail).

See details at <http://www.poetrymaster.com> and read his first two books online at <http://capa.conncoll.edu>

Proofreading service <http://www.studentproofreading.co.uk>

Scholarly proofreading - very reliable, set up for students originally but will handle anything at a reasonable cost.
Also write CV's.

Please direct all news and queries to info@poetrykit.org
The Poetry Kit - <http://www.poetrykit.org/>

The Poetry Kit - e-mail: info@poetrykit.org
Managing Editor Jim Bennett - jimbennett11@btinternet.com
Website - <http://www.poetrykit.org/jim/index.htm>

oOo

CAUGHT IN THE NET 63 - POETRY BY JENNIFER COMPTON
Series Editor - Jim Bennett

Introduction by Jim Bennett

Hello. Welcome to the next in the series of CITN featured poets. We will be looking at the work of a different poet in each edition and I hope it will help our readers to discover some new and exciting writing. This series is open to all to submit and I am now keen to read new work for this series.

You can join the CITN mailing list at - <http://www.poetrykit.org/pkl/index.htm> and following the links for Caught in the Net.

They looped and vanished before they landed.
This was where I lay among the straw - gumboots akimbo -
as the plump rat leaned up to sip from the water bucket
while the tease pony watched him complaisantly.

from; *Waipukurau* by Jennifer Compton

CONTENTS

1 - BIOGRAPHY

2 – POETRY

Cut Your Cloth

Driving to Otaki

Waipukurau

Taking Photographs Without a Camera

Steeplechase

The Face of the Body

Law and Order

Mi Scappa una Poesia

For the Cool Guy in the Train from Ljubljana to Venezia

Somewhere in Europe

3 - AFTERWORD

1 – BIOGRAPHY: JENNIFER COMPTON

Jennifer Compton was born in New Zealand in 1949 but is now based in Melbourne, Australia. She is a poet and playwright who also writes prose. Her stage play 'The Big Picture' which was published by Currency Press and premiered at the Griffin Theatre in Sydney, received another production by the Perth Theatre Company last year. 'Merrimba', a memoir, will be published by Ginninderra Press later this year. Recent work has appeared in Poetry London, Poetry Ireland Review, Queen's Quarterly (Canada), Quadrant (Australia), Poetry New Zealand, and in The Best Australian Poetry 2009 and in Best New Zealand Poems 2009. 'Barefoot', her next book of poetry, is ready for publication. From April-July she will be the Visiting Literary Artist at Massey University in New Zealand and in May next year she will be a guest at the 50th anniversary of Sarajevo Poetry Days. She has been married to actor/director/writer Matthew O'Sullivan for thirty-nine years and they have two grown children.

2 - POETRY

Cut Your Cloth

Take up the scissors, the fingers of your right hand know
where to find them, how to work them. Like that! And that!
Cut the air in two. Crunch the blades with your expertise.
Like a little song of emptiness, find the snip snip that makes
a snarl. Now what was it you were about to do, my friend?

The cloth is streaming off the loom with a shudder and thud
and I know the way the women stand back, I have seen them,

watching, deftly, their big soft hands unflexed on their bellies.
They shift from foot to foot on the long shift, and hum under
the roaring thunder of machines making material and stuff.

I have seen a brisk woman seize a bolt of cloth in a shop
and hurl it on the counter so it unfurls like an omen exact
to the lip, put out one sharp hand to stop the flutter and
measure with both arms what you might want. A yard.
Or more. Sometimes she rips it for you and it screams.

Sometimes she cuts it with a slick kerplunk, kerplunk.
I have seen a woman, dreamy and dismayed by plenty,
listen to the crackle of the taffeta, the purr of velveteen,
hat awry, unable to begin, picking at a cuticle inchoately
as if her hands, and her scissors, are useless things.

Driving to Otaki

My father woke up that day and he was back in the past.
Back in that time and place where all the dead are living.
It came into his mind to visit his grandmother in Otaki.
The woman from Livorno who had married an Irishman.
She served the pale, quaking macaroni to a table full
of childrens' children with a severe look, like a hawk.
My father got into the company car and drove north.
I imagine his elbow resting on the open window,
a ciggie in his accustomed hand, touching his lips,
moving the gears through their stations.

He drove like an explorer, nosing his car through the traffic,
until a young lad, going home, held out his thumb. It was an
obvious thing to do, to pick him up. The boy took the wheel
and gently drove our father back to us.

Waipukurau

It's knocking at the door in my mind.
- *See how the serpent dies on distant hills.*
That can only be the lazy coils evacuated
by the dare-devil crop dusting planes.

They looped and vanished before they landed.
This was where I lay among the straw - gumboots akimbo -
as the plump rat leaned up to sip from the water bucket
while the tease pony watched him complaisantly.

And the chaff cutting machine worked in fits and starts.
As the stallions raged in their stalls - fed high on oats -
they dragged me by the rope on their iron bit willy nilly
to the mating barn - and back again. Foaling followed.

The local ice `cream was excellent.
That boy that I tormented - cold as -
when he wept something stirred in me.
Was it pity? No, I don't know what it was.

Taking Photographs Without a Camera

Consider the stills that thrust themselves
into the place where they must be seen.
The ones I took. Or they took me.

Here's one. This is me. I am standing
in St Vinnies, Newtown, circa 1976.
And something clicks. I take a snap.

The bin, jumbled with belts, the red handbag,
dust floating in sunlight through the door,
the smell of talc and toadstools and tobacco.

Sotto voce the voice calling in the alley,
the grind and texture of the traffic.
I am being used (or using) like a machine.

I have seen a horse position her neck
to focus me in one hemispheric eye
and to develop me in that dark room.

The shape and stink of my tribal aura
where I stand within the landscape
and why, and I am captured. Captured.

Steeplechase

The field flows like water
over the high hedge
we are perched on top
of the big silence.

The front runners land
the sound begins again
like an oncoming storm
pelting hooves, cursing.

The Face of the Body

The artist's model sees everything but she never speaks.
The actor calls the chest and belly the face of their body.
She puts on her clothes to be unrecognisable. None of
them remember her face. The actor opens the face of his
/her body and engages with the audience. Maybe winks.
She must learn to NOT be naked. And to speak. Speak.

Law and Order

He came up behind me on the street
and held a knife to my bare throat.
My bag was tucked under my arm
but I loosed my grip and let him
rummage inside among my things.
My wallet. With the library cards,
the raffle tickets, and some cash.
With one hand he filched the notes.
I could not see his face but heard
his breath panting on my neck.
My visa card fell to the pavement.
I felt the awkward stoop jolt me
as he picked it up. - *What's this?*-
he said. - *What's your name?* - he said.
He dragged me backwards towards
the ATM and I silently acquiesced.
I saw a woman looking at us in this
intimate embrace. In this city street.
The quizzical look you give to lovers
stealing kisses from each other like
a violent crime, a grievous bodily harm.

I struggled to speak, above the knife,
- *He wants to know my name!* - I said.

Mi Scappa una Poesia

There's a king coming to visit us? Oh Gawd!
We'd better build a 'little room', a *piccola camera*
in which to greet him. To receive him.
We've nothing fit for a visiting king.
Let's make it of the right proportion so the voice
that greets him rings like a big bell. The sonorous
acoustic bounce of the brazen voice of confidence.
Like a primitive dance, tattooed and giving a smile
that's almost a smile, almost something quite else.
I-could-kill-you *haka* - but I won't
if you are impressed.
This perfect sounding chamber, with some paintings!
Of solemn antique things and some cherubs and stuff
above the door, the door. Oh, let's make the door *grande!*
Doors! Yes. Good idea. Some that really are like doors.
Some columns. Let's paint them gilt. And vault the ceiling.
A king who just has to look up at a divine parabola
leaves his throat exposed. So - niche and column,
paint and gilt, and all things just as they should be.
What else? We have gone as far as we can go?
For sure. That's it. The most. The best. The zenith.
An amber room! Yes, mate. A room made of amber.
What a good joke. Crafted and wrought, intricate and lit
from within by amber fire. Studded with diamonds.
Yes. Now we are cooking with gas. Now we are away laughing.
Just scatter some handfuls of diamonds, lots of them, everywhere.
Could we go any further? Is there anything more?
Chuck in a dog turd. Lay it on the floor.
But that is too ... ironic is not the word.
Disrespectful, on the nose, too up your bum!
What was that? What did he say? Give that man a beer.
Let's bring in a flayed corpse. Do we have one to hand?
Is the shop still open? Do they deliver? Bugger!
Can someone go out and get one? Anyone will do.
Cool. Very cool. Just lay it here. Among the diamonds.
On the amber floor. *Perfetto*. Just lay him on the floor.
I cannot help how far we will go with this very good idea.
We have done all we can do. There is no further we can go.
Except - here's an idea! Forgive me. You know I cannot help it.
Start up a war, a big one. Transport the room

- chuck out the corpse, he has begun to stink -
transport the room across Europe and then - leave a dickhead
in charge 'as ignorant armies clash by night'
and somehow or other - *n'importe quoi* - burn it.
Burn it into a grizzled melt shaped like a dog turd
so we are back where we begun. No room.
Pile the rubbish of the city down down upon it
and let rumour and report of the amber room
circulate for as long as forever or even longer.
So if the king wants to visit, put him off. Tell him no.
We have no room in which to greet him.
We cannot greet him in the square, in the open air
or on the patio by the BBQ. That would never do.
Put him off. Tell him anything. Tell him we have lost the room.
Let him think what he likes. We are not doing this thing
all over again.

For the Cool Guy in the Train from Ljubljana to Venezia

I could not help but notice
as a mother
he had no underpants.

He was heading for a job
in *Vicenza, Italia*
looking cool.

Ripped denim jeans jacket
sunnies
bum bag, and the loll in the window seat.

The border guards at Dubova
who were keen
sprinting out of their bolt hole

passed me with a scratch
at the hem of my *visto*
to *Italia*

but they gave him heaps.
They gave him shite.
I had picked him

out of all the people
in this unusual train

as someone like me.

So when the guards made him unpack
his duffel bag in front of me
a woman passed without demur

and all he owned
no underpants
was laid on the carriage seat

I took an interest.
No underpants I noticed
like a mother.

Bosnia i Hercegovina passport
I intuited as I inclined my head.
They let him pass, with bad grace.

He repacked, a new shirt in its cellophane,
took up his so beautiful posture by the window
ripped denim jacket, sunnies, bum bag, no underpants.

Somewhere in Europe

... seven people from three nations are having a near death experience
(by night) on the road from Banja Luka to Sarajevo.
Travelling behind the car with Vukovar plates.
And a lurid orange moon squats on a low hill
as if this landscape is the backdrop to a 14 year old boy's
bloodthirsty video game.

... the wave which is the backwash from a vaporetto laps and laps
and licks and licks at the fissure in the step and a woman looks at
it succeeding like a tongue of slow fire.

... a drop of water flings itself up into an arch
above the new Opera House which Charles Dickens never saw.
He died before the bomb fell on the Opera House that he knew.
And the solo pianist with two pianos makes the piano he is playing
reverberate. Like pain, coming at you with two fists and an agenda.

... the gypsy squats with her hand thrust out just over the border.
She will take konvertible marks or kuna. With melting eyes
a lamb turns on the spit, a delicious guilty stink, powered by
a pretty rush of water in a channel falling into a pool of trout.

The aboriginal bush, surplus to requirements, looms and swoops.

... one of the two or three local whores meets the bus, offering rooms.

That's strange - says the boy. - *She's not a room lady.*

... and a man becomes a hologram in a gallery in a famous city.

Until he paid no mind to his audience coming and going
with the elaborate tiptoes, elbows askew,

there was no way of knowing he was not alive in this place.

... a herd, a throng, stand on the river bank and stare up
at the bridge.

A herd, a throng, stare at the river, the herd on the bank,
from the bridge.

And a man in red speedos is about to dive, or fly, or is he?

Somewhere in Europe the cemetery is full to the brim
with new graves gleaming, old couples filling vases
at the tap with the precious, transparent water.

The old graves take note of every achievement,
Professor this, Doctor that. With famous sculptures.

And the light bounces off the monumental slab
enough to blind you - like a lid on everything,
a lid of polished tilting smoothness, green and vast.

Somewhere in Europe a young man stands on his balcony
and looks out at the urban trees as the trams glide by
and he looks at his country, his brand new country.

Somewhere in Europe she stands on stage in her silver shoes
in an absolute jewel of a bijou theatre that somehow survived
and reads your poem in a language nobody understands
and is transfixed by how she absolutely wished for this.
Love is always the best gift - although it may be the last gift.

Publishing History

The poems above are taken from the forthcoming collection BAREFOOT by Jennifer Compton

4 - Afterword

Email Poetry Kit - info@poetrykit.org - if you would like to tell us what you think. We are looking for other poets to feature in this series, and are open to submissions. Please send one

poem and a short bio to - info@poetrykit.org

Thank you for taking the time to read Caught in the Net. Our other magazines are Transparent Words and Poetry Kit Magazine, which are webzines on the Poetry Kit site and this can be found at - <http://www.poetrykit.org/>

oOo

CAUGHT IN THE NET 64 - POETRY BY SAM SILVA
Series Editor - Jim Bennett

Introduction by Jim Bennett

Hello. Welcome to the next in the series of CITN featured poets. We will be looking at the work of a different poet in each edition and I hope it will help our readers to discover some new and exciting writing. This series is open to all to submit and I am now keen to read new work for this series.

You can join the CITN mailing list at - <http://www.poetrykit.org/pkl/index.htm> and following the links for Caught in the Net.

But there is also
that quiet
sometimes dark
inebriation of bitter wine
staining the scrawls
of articles found
in journals
or printed from blogs

from; Russel's Unnatural Place by Sam Silva

CONTENTS

1 - BIOGRAPHY

2 – POETRY

TWO ARTISTS IN LOVE

HOW WILL THEY REMEMBER ME?
NEW ENGLAND
PITY THOSE WHO NEVER CAME
RUSSEL'S UNNATURAL PLACE
SONG OF ICE AND FIRE

3 - AFTERWORD

1 – BIOGRAPHY: SAM SILVA

He has published at least 150 poems in print magazines, including Sow's Ear, The ECU Rebel, Pembroke magazine, Samisdad, St. Andrew's Review, Charlotte Poetry Review, Main Street Rag, and many more. Has published at least 300 poems in online journals including Jack Magazine, Comrades, Megaera, Poetry Super Highway, physik garden, Ken again, -30-, Fairfield Review, Foliate oak, and dozens of others. Three legitimate small presses have published chapbooks of his, three of those presses have nominated work of his for Pushcart a total of 7 times. Bright Spark Creative of Wilmington purchased rights to his first full length book EATING AND DRINKING and put the book out through author house at their expense. He now has many books and chapbooks available at <http://www.lulu.com/samsilva54> and as kindle books at Amazon.com

And his spoken word poetry is available at the major digital markets such as Apple iTunes.

http://www.amazon.com/Sam-Silva/e/B001KCV3VW/ref=sr_tc_2_0?qid=1268192280&sr=1-2-ent

2 - POETRY

TWO ARTISTS IN LOVE

After the trials of youth we found our fire
and wove our flames in red and blue and lavender
these many years and winters
together in the art of painting and of words.

And summers came as well and filled our flute with song's desire
in making us twin travelers
in things that speak such images
in Spring's full love and murder
or Autumn's tears and splinters
till each solstice came upon us beyond visionary birds.

Now February brings the heart and kiss
to walkways frozen over beyond the New Year's bliss.

Computer music plays as I love your art and look.
And you return my gaze come the night, and close the book.

HOW WILL THEY REMEMBER ME?

Will the living dishonor me?
Will my worn bones be dishonored?
Will voices chide with tired humor
...sick enough of the subject of my life...?
...that one extra chore
among many
dead or dying chores.

Have tears of love gone dry?
among the eyes of a multitude of friends
and wives
and whores

whose saved my weak and frightened graceless form
from ruin
...and hid it like a coin
unspent
...once upon a time...unable to relent...?

One small worry!...one too many kept!
...for that great jury
in the churches and the stores

...working, buying, and surviving
for a few brief days
beyond the hour
of their debt.

And little time for poems and prayers
...just enough to laugh
more than they wept!

NEW ENGLAND

For a literature of Puritan witchery!
A fall rain comes
battering the acorns
from above.

That cold wet seed of our birth rite!
...and burning leaves
on a coastal mountain.

PITY THOSE WHO NEVER CAME

Brisk outside,
and warm within!
...those who built the fortress wise
gaze out
on the haunted skies
of harvest cloud
and harvest fire.

Yet, given this, the dead live on
with jeweled eyes and bricks of ice
wiser in a fool's device
that all of the good men fortune found.
Listen to their empty song
echo death with longing sound.

Pity those who never came
to fall and rise...or even fail
but shattered in a strange demise
which the snakes of ancient gods foretold
with strange stars leading from the east!

For, who knows love...without desire?
in a long ago city made of gold
or at harvest time which the Moon foretold
in the sacrifice
of man
and beast...

RUSSEL'S UNNATURAL PLACE

A hedonism of dogs and parks!
A baying and howling
and running fast
in brown and purple fields

...the needles of the pine all fallen
in the stitched Autumn edge of the city
...laughing that way with his friend and lover

...boys gone off to a country hideaway!

But there is also
that quiet
sometimes dark
inebriation of bitter wine
staining the scrawls
of articles found
in journals
or printed from blogs

where a difficult sadness
has found its alienation

in childlike solitude
watching the world grow up
into that monster
which has forgotten itself

and gone off
to war
against people
and nature
and the sacred tribes

who touched
in a distant periphery
the life
of a lonely child...

SONG OF ICE AND FIRE

Undo the buckle of the belt
and melt
into a huge blond draft beer!
And suck a cigarette down
to ashes
and a tear.

An ancient man by Sixty!
choking on his own
gray decaying meat!

Oh winters with your unforgiving cold!
Oh summers with your unrelenting heat...

4 - Afterword

Email Poetry Kit - info@poetrykit.org - if you would like to tell us what you think. We are looking for other poets to feature in this series, and are open to submissions. Please send one poem and a short bio to - info@poetrykit.org

Thank you for taking the time to read Caught in the Net. Our other magazines are Transparent Words and Poetry Kit Magazine, which are webzines on the Poetry Kit site and this can be found at - <http://www.poetrykit.org/>