

What's On at Wenlock Books: June 2007

Literary Evenings at Marsh Barn Gallery We enjoyed two evenings at Fry on the Wall Art gallery, on the Broseley Road just outside Much Wenlock. First, at the end of April was an evening with Welsh poet, Steve Griffiths. Steve's casual and friendly approach to his poetry reading was much enjoyed, and left us all wanting more. This was the first of a short series of poetry readings to be hosted by Wenlock Books: coming up, we have Gillian Clarke, Ann Drysdale and Jackie Kay – let me know if you would like to be on our email list to be sure of getting details.

Our second evening at Fry on the Wall was a lively discussion of adult and children's award winning writer Anne Fine. A very entertaining evening, and we were especially pleased to have several young people in the audience. This event was a fund-raiser for Shrewsbury Bookfest, which Wenlock Books is proud to support.



Pictured above are Mollie, Rory and Anne Fine,

Harry Potter!

Seven books, One story....

Tickets are £10 per adult, and £5 per child. The cost of the book is £17.99. Pre-booking is essential as the train will doubtless be fully booked as time goes on. This will be a night of a life-time! Don't even think about queuing in Telford, come and celebrate the end of the Harry Potter era: music, theatre, owls, magic, ghosts, wizards! Not many places left now!

Reading for Pleasure

On June 3rd we are meeting at Brook Cottage to discuss *Boudica*; *Dreaming the Eagle* by Manda Scott. (We hope Manda will be joining us to make the day very special!)

June 6th at 2pm and 7pm we shall be reading Mollie Panter-Downes' *One Fine Day*; an elegant, thoughtful and moving evocation of a time gone by, never to be the same again....

On June 8th (what a busy week!) the children's

reading group will meet: I shall be reading to them from *The Silver Sword* by Ian Serraillier and enjoying hearing all their news about what they've been reading since we last met.

Deaf Africa Fund

Our most recent project to support the Deaf Africa Fund is to encourage you to "buy a brick" (50p - £1.00) or to "buy a bag of cement" (approx £9). Do bear this in mind when buying virtual presents for friends and family (I'll remind you nearer to Christmas!). This is to help UWAVIKA – The Tanzanian Association of Parents of Deaf Children – build the toilet and shower blocks for a new Vocational Training Centre in Ghona Village, Tanzania. We are so excited about this very important project, and will be glad of any support you can offer. Do help!

Exhibitions

Until July 12th there is a small exhibition of giclée prints from original water-colours by Katherine Chippendale in the shop. From July 14th, we shall be hosting an exhibition of work by photographer Judy King. Readers of the *Wenlock Herald* are invited to Judy's private viewing at the bookshop on Friday 13th; do come and join us for a glass of wine. (It would be very helpful if you could let us know if you are planning to come on the 13th, thanks.)

Friends of Ludlow Library

Following a talk I did at Ludlow Library, the Friends ... are coming to visit Much Wenlock on Thursday 14th June. They will be visiting the Priory and the bookshop, and no doubt enjoying all that Wenlock has to offer as well.

Bookseller of the Year

My year as Independent Bookseller of the Year is now at an end; I celebrated by judging this year's entries, and went to Harrogate in April to see the new winners crowned; it was a lovely occasion, and the new winner Much Ado Books, Alfriston (Surrey) are worthy winners.

Last but not least, by the time you read this I will know if Barbara Kingsolver (yes, *really!*) will be visiting the bookshop in July. She is in the UK for just five days and will be visiting the South Bank Literary Festival, Dartington Festival, appearing on *Woman's Hour*, and (fingers crossed!) coming to MUCH WENLOCK!! Watch the shop and the local press for details.

Anna.