

TUTORS FOR FUTURE WEEKENDS in 2011

WRITING A NOVEL: 28TH - 30TH OCTOBER WENDY ROBERTSON & AVRIL JOY

WENDY ROBERTSON has published over 20 novels with a range of themes from historical to contemporary, from family saga to psychological drama. Her short story collection, *Knives* was published in 2010 by IRON Press. She has judged numerous writing competitions and has been a mentor and tutor for emerging writers. In addition to occasional journalism, she has a monthly community radio programme and is currently writing a novel set in Vichy France.

AVRIL JOY was working as Head of Learning and Skills in a North East prison for women when she met writer in residence, Wendy Robertson and was inspired to begin writing. In 2003 she received a Northern Promise Award from New Writing North and her first novel, *The Sweet Track* was published in 2007 by Flambard Press. She left 'prison' in 2008, to write full-time and has since worked in the North East running writing workshops, weekends and small novel groups. Avril is now working on a short story collection and has recently been named as a runner up in a national short story competition.

WRITING FOR TV: 25th - 27th NOVEMBER MICHAEL CHAPLIN & KAREN LAWS

MICHAEL CHAPLIN has produced drama for television and was controller of drama and arts at Tyne Tees Television and then head of programmes at BBC Wales. His TV credits as a writer include the original series *Act of Betrayal* (1989), *Dandelion Dead* (1994) and *Drovers' Gold* (1997). He has adapted P. D. James' novel *Original Sin* (1997) and four films for *Dalziel and Pascoe* (1998/99). He created and wrote the hit ITV series *Grafters*, and in 1999-2005 the highly successful series for BBC1 inspired by Compton Mackenzie's Highland novels, *Monarch of the Glen*, which ran for seven series. He wrote a two-hour film for the ITV series *Foyle's War* (2008) and *Just Henry* (2011), based on the novel by Michelle Magorian, which is to be ITV's Christmas film for 2011.

KAREN LAWS has written for television, radio and stage. Her television credits include *EastEnders*, *Casualty*, *Holby City* and *Shameless*. She has also developed a daytime drama series, *32 Brinkburn Street*, which has recently been recommissioned for a second series. She lives in Newcastle.

* for more information or to book, see contact details page 2.



*write
by the
sea*

*Residential
Writing Courses
on the
North East Coast
of England*

WELCOME to a new writing centre on the beautiful North East Coast of England. Be invigorated and inspired by the coastline and the sea. Our tutors are chosen from this region's wealth of talented writers, and are all experienced in nurturing creative writing talent.

The first **WRITE BY THE SEA** weekend workshop takes place from Friday evening to Sunday afternoon, **Sept 30th - Oct 2nd 2011**.

FICTION FOUNDATIONS, the first weekend, is aimed at those starting out on the fiction writing highway.

YOUR ACCOMMODATION is on the seafront at Whitley Bay. Each writer will have his/her own room. There is a bar/ lounge and plenty of spaces to work alone. Accommodation and all meals are provided.

TUTORS: *Carol Clewlow & Kitty Fitzgerald* - see biogs over...

GUEST SPEAKER: On Saturday evening *Peter Mortimer* the founder and editor of IRON press will talk and answer questions about the publishing industry and independent presses in particular.

YOUR HOST is *Christine Goodwin*, founder and owner of Northumbria School of English in Whitley Bay.

TUTORS: Fiction Foundations



CAROL CLEWLOW has written five novels, among them *Keeping the Faith* shortlisted for the *Whitbread First Novel Prize* and the best selling *A Woman's Guide to Adultery*, translated into 15 languages and turned into a TV mini series. An adaptation of her fourth novel, *One for the Money*, was performed at the Edinburgh Fringe. Her latest novel is, *Not Married, Not Bothered*. She is a founder member of *Operating Theatre* for whom she writes plays on health and clinical issues for performance at medical schools and at conferences. She has taught creative writing for 20 years, including as an Arvon tutor and currently lectures on the MA in creative writing at Teesside University.



KITTY FITZGERALD has written four novels, one of which, *Pigtopia* took 2nd place in the *Barnes and Noble Discover New Writers' Award* and has sold to 17 countries. Four of her radio plays have been produced on *BBC Radio4* and eight of her theatre plays have been performed. She has edited two collections of short stories for *IRON Press - IRON Women & Biting Back* - and is editing a new anthology for them. She won the *Latitude Festival/Notes from the Underground Short Story Competition* in 2009. Kitty was recently Creative Writing Fellow at Leeds University and also a visiting lecturer on the MA & BA in Creative Writing at Northumbria University.



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For more courses in the pipeline see page 4

During the **FICTION FOUNDATIONS** weekend, using a mixture of one-to-one tutorials and group workshops we will investigate:

- Characters
- Point of View
- Voice
- Structure
- Openings & Endings
- Dialogue



Participants are invited to send - in advance - to the School, up to 3000 words and a brief synopsis of a piece of fiction. The tutors will give one-to-one feedback on it during the weekend.

If you haven't yet started a piece of fiction don't worry, there will be plenty of opportunities during the weekend.

Book me on Fiction Foundations (Sept 30th), Novels (Oct 28th) or Scriptwriting (Nov 25th)

Name:.....

Address:.....

Email:.....

Tel:.....

I enclose the full booking fee of £275 per course. Cheques made payable to The Northumbria Centre.

The weekends will run from 6pm Friday to 3pm Sunday. All food will be provided and should anyone wish to stay over on Sunday evening at extra cost this can be arranged with Christine.

A full schedule will be sent to participants on payment.