

THE RNA CONFERENCE
Harper Adams University, 15th - 17th JULY 2022
Edgmond, Newport, Shropshire TF10 8NB

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| Thursday 14th July | |
| 3pm onwards | Collect room keys from the Aspire Centre. If driving, park in the Visitor Car Park behind the Aspire Centre Settle into accommodation |
| 6pm | BAR in <i>The Welly Inn</i> |
| 7 - 8pm | DINNER in <i>Queen Mother dining room (ground floor)</i> |
| 8 - 11pm | BAR in <i>The Welly Inn</i> |

THE RNA CONFERENCE, HARPER ADAMS UNIVERSITY
15th - 17th JULY 2022

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| Friday 15th July | |
| 7 - 9 am | BREAKFAST (<i>for those staying Thursday night</i>) in <i>Queen Mother dining room</i> |
| 9-12 | Make up the goody bags Bookstall setup Set up RNA reception hub, tables, noticeboards <i>Weston building foyer</i> <i>All offers of help gratefully received!</i> |
| 10 – 12 | Emma Darwin: Two hour workshop exploring Psychic Distance, the concept which integrates decisions about narrative voice, characters' voices, pace, viewpoint and showing and telling. <i>RFA Lecture Theatre</i> |
| 10 – 1 | Historical/Fantasy Author Signing: <i>Pia Fenton</i> is organising an off-site Historical / Fantasy author signing at Southwater Library on Friday 15 th July from 10am to 1pm. Further details to follow. Costumes may be worn. There is no charge for taking part. Number of tables may be limited so first come first served! Email Pia for more info: pia.fenton@gmail.com |

| Choices | A | or B | or C | or D |
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| MAIN CONFERENCE BEGINS HERE! | | | | |
| Friday 15 th July 1pm onwards | Collect room keys from Aspire Centre, register for conference (Weston) Lunch in the Queen Mother dining room for those who have pre-booked Goody bags, Bookstall, tea and coffee | | | ~ Industry appts ~ 2pm onwards Belinda Toor (x8) 2pm-4pm Melanie Hayes (x10) Audrey Linton (x10) |
| 1.45pm – 2:45 | RNA COMMITTEE Q&A | | | 3-4pm Alex Hammond (x3) Olivia Barber (x5) |
| 2.45-3.45 | Bring on the Rewrite! See your book from an editor's viewpoint. Jenny Hutton & Emily Ruston cover common writing pitfalls, explain what stands out in the slush pile and make a case for those soul-destroying words - THE REWRITE! | Who is the Contemporary Protagonist? Julie Cohen chairs a talk with agent Hattie Grunewald, Canelo's Emily Bedford and Dialogue Book's Maisie Lawrence on today's most (un)likely protagonists | Everything You Wanted to Know About Indie Publishing But Were Afraid to Ask: Lizzie Lamb & Adrienne Vaughan with their step by step guide to becoming an independently published author | |
| 3.45-4.00 | <i>Comfort break</i> | | | |
| 4.00-4.30 | WELCOME by Jean Fullerton followed by conference notices with Sheila Crighton and Alison May | | | |
| 4.30-5.30 | Practice Makes Pitch Perfect with Hannah Schofield, Belinda Toor, Donna Hillyer. Chaired by Alison May. Live elevator pitches get immediate feedback from our panel of industry professionals. Email sheilacrighton@me.com if you'd like your pitch put in the hat to potentially be one of them. | Creating Realistic Characters in a Fantasy World: Lauded YA Fantasy author Sarah Rees Brennan talks about real people living out-of-our-world lives | ~ Industry appts ~ Jenny Hutton (x3) Emily Ruston (ind x3) Olivia Barber (x5) | |
| 6pm-7.30 | BAR <i>in Queen Mother Hall (upstairs)</i> | | | |
| 7.30-8.30 | DINNER <i>in Queen Mother dining room (downstairs)</i> | | | |
| 8.30-11.30 | BAR | | | |

THE RNA CONFERENCE, HARPER ADAMS UNIVERSITY
15th - 17th JULY 2020

| Saturday 16 th July | A | or B | or C | or D |
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| 7 - 9am | BREAKFAST <i>in Queen Mother dining room</i> for residential delegates Day visitor registration from 8.30am in Weston foyer | | | |
| 9.00-10.00 | Romantic Novelists' Association AGM | | | ~ Industry appts ~ Hattie Grunewald (x5) Hannah Schofield (x5) Jenny Hutton (x3) Emily Ruston (Boldwood x5) Emily Bedford (x5) |
| 10.00-10.30 | Tea, coffee and biscuits | | | |
| 10.30- 11.30 | The History of Chocolate and Romance: Food Historian Alex Hutchinson investigates the history of romance and chocolate. | Let Me Tell You A Story (DIY Audio Books): Voice coach Tamsin Collison takes Rhoda Baxter through key elements making an audio book. | NWS Get Together with Janet Gover | ~ Industry appts ~ Donna Hillyer (x3) Alex Hammond (x3) Hattie Grunewald (x5) Hannah Schofield (x5) Maisie Lawrence (x5) |
| 11.45-12.45 | Slay Your Synopsis! Sarah Waights leads this workshop on writing a proper 'sell' and 'tell' synopsis that will make your book irresistible. | Indie Cover Design Lab: Stuart Bache He's back... and he's ready to help make your covers better than ever! | TikTok for Authors: Fiona Lucas explains how to harness the power of the latest social media app to gain readers and promote your books. | ~ Industry appts ~ Donna Hillyer (x3) Susan Yearwood (x5) Maisie Lawrence (x5) Emily Bedford (x5) |
| 12.45-1.45pm | Lunch, tea & coffee <i>in Queen Mother dining room</i> | | | |
| 1.45-2.45 | Lizzy Dent: An Author's Journey from page to screen: Hear how Lizzy's book ' <i>The Summer Job</i> ' hit Tinseltown with her agent, Hattie Grunewald and Mark Stay of The Bestseller Experiment | | Top Ten Contract Questions: Rhoda Baxter with the crucial questions to consider before you sign a contract | ~ Industry appts ~ Susan Yearwood (x5) Laurie Johnson (x5) Bobbi-Lee Wright (x5) |
| 3.00-4.00 | My First Bookclub with Katie Fforde & Rowan Coleman: Alison May joins two prolific and much-loved authors discussing their first books (<i>Living Dangerously</i> and <i>Growing Up Twice</i>) and what they've learnt since writing them | | Get to Grips With Instagram: Anita Chapman shows you how to maximise your presence on Instagram. | ~ Industry appts ~ Kate Nash (x5) Saskia Leach (x5) Rebecca Slorach (x5) Jennie Rothwell (x5) Charlotte Ledger (x5) |
| 4.00- 4.30 | Tea, coffee and biscuits | | | |
| 4.30-5.30 | Slush Pile Slam! with Rhea Kurien, Victoria Pepe, Jennie Rothwell. Chaired by Janet Gover. A panel of industry experts listen to blind readings of your first pages and give on-the-spot feedback. See programme for details on how to submit. | | How Good is Your Dual Time Management? Pia Fenton & Anna Belfrage with top tips for keeping your eras in order. | ~ Industry appts ~ Laurie Johnson (x5) Bobbi-Lee Wright (x5) Rebecca Slorach (x5) Charlotte Ledger (x5) |
| 6.pm | BAR <i>in Queen Mother Hall (upstairs)</i> | | | |
| 6.30pm | Presentation of the Joan Hessayon Award and the Elizabeth Goudge Trophy <i>in Queen Mother Hall (upstairs)</i> | | | |
| 7.30- 9.30 | GALA DINNER <i>in Queen Mother dining room</i> | | | |
| 9.30-late | BAR <i>in Queen Mother Hall (upstairs)</i> | | | |

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15th - 17th JULY 2020

| Sunday 17 th July | A | or B | or C | or D |
|---------------------------------|---|---|---|--|
| 7 - 9am | BREAKFAST <i>in Queen Mother dining room</i> for residential delegates Day visitor registration from 8.30am in Weston foyer | | | |
| 9.00-10.00 | Ever Wanted to Write for Mills & Boon? Learn about each M&B series in this practical workshop. Laurie Johnson & Bobbi-Lee Wright give you the tools needed to take your story from concept to contract! | Taking 10 Seconds to Fall In Love With Your Writing: Sonia Duggan leads this workshop channelling your energies towards positive, proactive creativity | Just Say Yes To The Tropes! Authors Pernille Hughes & Elizabeth Drummond talk about the future of the RomCom with Mark Stay of The Bestseller Experiment | ~ Industry appts ~ Alison May (x3) Kate Nash (x5) Saskia Leach (x5) Rhea Kurien (x5) |
| 10.00-10.30 | Tea, coffee and biscuits | | | |
| 10.30-11.30 | What Readers Want - how your voice fits into the commercial romance market: Charlotte Ledger with a look at why publishers buy the books they do, with a focus on audience, pitch and trends | Writing the Rainbow LGBTQ+ Fiction: Brigid Coady chairs a discussion with Rebecca Slorach, Melissa Lenhardt, and Charlie Lyndhurst | Paying The Man: That's right... it's the tax talk. Clare London shows us how to get it right when we write for a living. | ~ Industry appts ~ Alison May (x3) Rhea Kurien (x5) Victoria Pepe (x5) |
| 11.45-12.45 | Elizabeth Chadwick: Award-winning historical fiction author & academic in conversation with Nicola Cornick. | | BUT WHY??? Julie Cohen talks about crafting conflict for your characters | ~ Industry appts ~ Victoria Pepe (x5) Jennie Rothwell (x5) |
| 12.45-1.00 | Jean Fullerton sums up the 2022 Conference | | | |
| 1.00-2.00pm | Lunch, tea & coffee <i>in Queen Mother dining room</i> | | | |

End of Main Conference. Sunday Extra starts here

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| 2.00- 3.00 | Who Am I? Liz Fenwick and Brigid Coady help you find your writer's brand & a comfortable home on social media | The Pinched Waist: A History of the Corset: Costumer Allana Vincent explores three hundred years of corsetry. |
| 3.15-4.15 | Cupcake Decorating Cupcake café books not involve enough decorating? Learn how with expert Liz Berwick (for gluten-free or vegan cupcakes, contact sheilacrighton@me.com) | Land Girls and the Countryside: Join Professor Nicola Verdon as she discusses the working woman in her many guises during the early twentieth century. |
| 4.15-4.45 | Tea, coffee and biscuits | |
| 4.45-5.45 | Snog, Marry, Murder with Ruth Long (and with wine): A fun and entirely frivolous audience participation event to pick our favourite heroes and heroines, the ones we love, the ones we love to hate and the ones we simply can't stand. | |
| 6pm-7pm | BAR <i>in The Welly Inn</i> | |
| 7-8pm | DINNER <i>in Queen Mother dining room</i> | |
| 8-11pm | BAR <i>in The Welly Inn</i> | |

Delegates staying overnight should please vacate the accommodation by 9am on Monday