

THE RNA CONFERENCE, LEEDS TRINITY UNIVERSITY, 13-15 JULY 2018
Brownberrie Lane, Horsforth, Leeds LS18 5HD

Thursday 12th July	
2pm onwards	Collect room keys from Leeds Trinity reception. Meet and greet in Fountains Court lounge Settle into accommodation
6 - 7.30pm 6pm -11pm	DINNER <i>in the dining room</i> ...followed by a cash BAR (adjoining)
7.30 - 9.30pm	Romance and the Brontës at The Leeds Library 18 Commercial Street, Leeds, LS1 6AL (Tel: 0113 245 3071). The Leeds Library was founded in 1768. It is the oldest surviving example of a proprietary subscription library in the British Isles. More information at https://www.theleedslibrary.org.uk

Romance and the Brontës at The Leeds Library

18 Commercial Street, Leeds, LS1 6AL

To celebrate the 250th anniversary of The Leeds Library and 200 years of the Brontës, there will be a panel of RNA members discussing modernising Brontë classics and the enduring appeal of the themes. The panel will include 'Juliet Bell', the collaborative pen name of **Janet Gover** and **Alison May**, whose latest release is THE HEIGHTS and **Kate Walker**, who wrote her MA on the Brontë sisters and their childhood writings. Kate is the author of a *Modern Romance* reworking of Wuthering Heights entitled THE RETURN OF THE STRANGER; part of a mini-series called THE POWERFUL AND THE PURE, written for Harlequin Mills & Boon.

Juliet Bell was born at a writers' conference, with a chance remark about heroes who are far from heroic. She was raised on pizza and wine during many long working lunches, and finished her first novel over cloud storage and Skype in 2017. Juliet shares Janet and Alison's preoccupation with misunderstood classic fiction, and stories that explore the darker side of relationships.

Kate Walker grew up in West Yorkshire, just 10 miles from Haworth, the home of the Brontës. She has an MA in English from the University of Wales, Aberystwyth focusing on Emily and Charlotte's childhood writings. She has written over 60 titles for Harlequin Mills and Boon. Her novels have been published in over thirty-five countries in over twenty different languages worldwide.

This is a free event but places can be reserved in advance via The Leeds Library. Details will be on ROMNA, the RNA facebook group, and the ebulletin nearer the time.

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Saturday 14th July	A	or B	or C	or D
7.30 - 9am	BREAKFAST <i>in dining room</i> for residential delegates Day visitor registration from 8.30am in courtyard room			
9 - 10am	Sam Missingham: Discoverability - how authors can empower themselves and be noticed by readers	Carol McGrath & Charlotte Betts: Finding the truth and breathing life into historical characters	Immi Howson: NWS members get-together	Editors / Agents Gillian Green Katie Seaman Emily Yau Federica Leonardis Juliet Pickering
10 - 10.30	Tea, coffee, pastries and fruit <i>in conference suite</i>			
10.30-11.30	Felicity Trew & Brigid Coady: Agent & Author Unplugged - a behind-the-scenes conversation and Q&A	Maggie Swinburne: Getting your <i>My Weekly</i> pocket novel published	Alison May: Self-Editing. How to do it effectively	Editors / Agents Gillian Green Katie Seaman Nic Caws Sareeta Domingo
11.45-12.45	Fiona Harper: Romance Structure - how three-act structure applies to love stories	Debbie Taylor: Pitching your novel	Nicola Cornick & Andrea Penrose: Adding mystery to history	Editors / Agents Nic Caws Sareeta Domingo Anna Baggaley Judith Murdoch
12.45-1.45	Self-service lunch, tea & coffee <i>in dining room</i>			
1.45-2.45	Rowan Coleman: Finding your author voice	Debbie Taylor: Writing a synopsis	Samantha Bental: Radio Gaga - appearing on live radio	Editors / Agents Lucy Gilmour Anna Baggaley Amy Durant Maggie Swinburne Hattie Grunewald
3 - 4pm	RNA Open Discussion: Have Your Say! Your chance to have a say in how you'd like the RNA to develop. It's also a chance to hear about plans that are already underway.			Editors / Agents Lucy Gilmour Hannah Smith
4 - 4.30	Tea, coffee and biscuits <i>in conference suite</i>			
4.30-5.30	Barbara Erskine: "Truth Can Be Stranger Than Fiction" ...in conversation with Nicola Cornick	Abigail Fenton, Leodora Darlington: Bookouture - how digital publishing could work for you!	Elizabeth Bailey & Rhoda Baxter: how to interact with readers using mailing lists	Editors / Agents Hannah Smith Kate Nash Laura Gerrard
6.30-7pm	Pre-dinner drinks <i>in conference suite</i> <i>1st glass free</i>			
7pm- 9pm	GALA DINNER Including the Presentation of the Elizabeth Goudge Trophy <i>in dining room</i>			
9pm-midnight	BAR			

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Sunday 15th July	A	or B	or C	or D
7.30 - 9am	BREAKFAST <i>in dining room</i> for residential delegates Day visitor registration from 8.30am in courtyard room			
9 - 10	Alison Morton & Denise Barnes: Critique partners and writing buddies - how does it work?	Liam Livings & Virginia Heath: Sensual love scenes without stuffing the turkey	Andrew Cornick: Emotional resilience for writers	Editors/ Agents Abigail Fenton Leodora Darlington Isobel Dixon Julia Silk Laura Gerrard
10 - 10.30	Tea, coffee, pastries and fruit <i>in conference suite</i>			
10.30-11.30	Mark Stay: The Bestseller Experiment - how two friends aimed for the top of the Kindle chart ... introduced by Julie Cohen		Liz Harris: Pacing - you need more than another dead body!	Editors / Agents Abigail Fenton Amy Durant Hattie Grunewald Federica Leonardis
11.45-12.45	Milly Johnson: in conversation with Janet Gover	Word Wenches: Two nations, one language of romance? - with Nicola Cornick, Patricia Rice, Mary Jo Putney, Andrea Penrose	Sonia Duggan: Mini Life Coaching Sessions Book for this direct with Sonia. 'Sessions & Speakers' has the info.	Editors / Agents Kate Bradley Leodora Darlington Julia Silk Isobel Dixon
12.45-1pm	Nicola Cornick sums up the 2018 Conference			
1 - 2pm	Carvery lunch, tea & coffee <i>in dining room</i>			

End of Main Conference. Sunday Extra starts here!

2 - 3pm	Kate Johnson: Alpha or A**hole? The fine line between hero and villain	Sonia Duggan: Mini life coach sessions. Book direct with Sonia (see above)	Editor appts Kate Bradley
3.15-4.15	Ali Adams: From Baby Wipes to Burlesque - a life story with a difference	Denise Barnes: From self-published to trad-published!	
4.15-4.45	Tea, coffee and biscuits <i>in conference suite</i>		
4.45-5.45	Alison May: A book in an hour. Bring wine. We can do this.		
6 - 7pm	BAR		
7 - 8pm	DINNER <i>in dining room</i>		
8 - 11pm	BAR and Sunday Night Quiz		

*Delegates staying overnight should please vacate the accommodation by 9am on Monday.
See you in Lancaster next year!*