

Lambeth Readers & Writers Festival 2021

A GUIDE TO EVENTS IN
OUR LIBRARIES
SPRING TO SUMMER 2021

www.lambeth.gov.uk/ReadersandWriters



Lambeth



I am delighted to welcome you to the Lambeth Libraries Readers and Writers Festival. The 2021 festival is here with another month-long programme of inspirational literary events – we hope you find something to enjoy. Since the first festival some 17 years ago it has become a regular highlight in the Library calendar and goes from strength to strength. In 2021 we have another month of events to suit all tastes whether you enjoy reading, writing, discussion or simply sitting back and listening. Come and join us and express yourself! You'll be amazed at the fun you can have in your local library.

Cllr Sonia Winifred
Cabinet Member for Equalities and Culture

 @ReadersWritersF #LamLitFest21
 Lambeth Readers and Writers Festival
 readersandwriters@lambeth.gov.uk



Literary Bingo with Lambeth Libraries Throughout May

 [@ReadersWritersF](#)

Join us for the month of May to challenge your literary knowledge. Each day during the month we'll

be posting literary quiz questions for you to answer. Follow us on Twitter and download your bingo card then crack the daily quiz questions and cross off any answers you have to complete your card... and BINGO! For instructions on how to play

and to get the bingo cards, visit the [Readers and Writers Festival Facebook](#) page from 1st May and then check us on Twitter each day where we will post your daily Bingo quiz clue.



Barney Jones

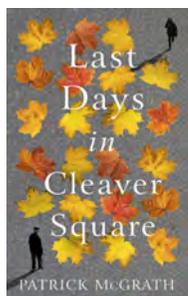
The Volunteer: The True Story of the Resistance Hero who Infiltrated Auschwitz with author Jack Fairweather and Clare Mulley Thursday 6 May, 7pm

[Eventbrite](#) [Book here](#)

Writer and broadcaster, Clare Mulley, joins the Costa Prize award-winning author and journalist Jack Fairweather, to discuss the story of Witold Pilecki, a Polish cavalry officer and resistance leader during the Second World War. Pilecki was

an amazing character whose life we should all know more about; a man who willingly volunteered to be imprisoned in the death camp Auschwitz in order to put together an underground resistance within the fences of the camp.

This event is co-organised with Poles in South London – Local Heroes Archive and Pilecki Institute, supported by Polish Embassy and Polish Cultural Institute in London.



Patrick McGrath – Last Days in Cleaver Square Monday 10 May, 7pm

[Eventbrite](#) [Book here](#)

It's 1975 and Francis McNulty is nearing the end of his life but feeling far from peaceful. A veteran of the Spanish Civil War,

he is tormented by grief and guilt about a brief, terrible act of betrayal from that time; and he's started seeing his old nemesis on the street, in the garden and now in his bedroom. When Gillian announces her impending marriage to a senior civil servant, Francis realises that he must

adapt to new circumstances – and that the time has come to confront his past once and for all.

Join Patrick to discuss his much-anticipated new novel. Event organised with the Friends of Durning Library.



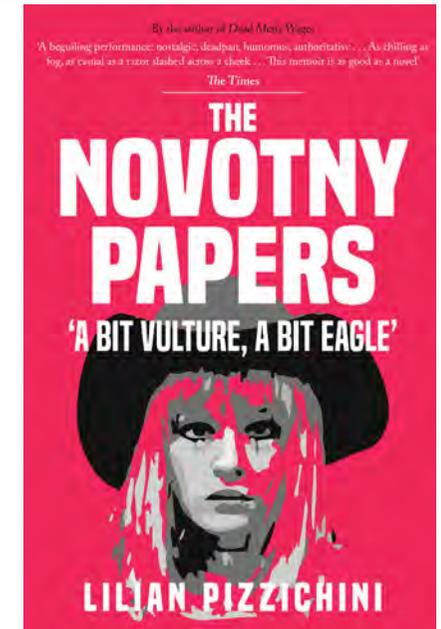
The Novotny Papers with author Lilian Pizzichini
Tuesday 11 May, 7pm

[Eventbrite](#) [Book here](#)

It is almost impossible to summarise the extraordinary life of Mariella Novotny in a few paragraphs. In 1961 she was engaging in sexual relations with President John F. Kennedy and believed to be a Communist agent. Two years later she was involved in the Profumo Affair. Then in the 1970s she began working undercover investigating police corruption in the Flying Squad. Her chief target was the author's grandfather, Charlie

Taylor, a London conman who had high-ranking officers in his deep pockets. Mariella brought them all down and was found dead in February 1983. She was in the process of writing her memoirs and Christine Keeler said she was convinced it was murder, most probably by the CIA.

Mariella Novotny's life was an intrigue, embroiled in some of the top spy and crime stories of the day and through Lilian's biography emerges as an embodiment of the emergence of a radical sexual politics. Organised with the Friends of Carnegie Library.



Lola Olufemi - Feminism, Interrupted: Disrupting Power
Wednesday 12 May, 7pm

[Eventbrite](#) [Book here](#)

Plastered over t-shirts and tote bags, the word 'feminist' has entered the mainstream and is fast becoming a popular slogan for our generation. But feminism isn't a commodity up for purchase; it's a weapon for fighting against injustice. This

revolutionary book reclaims feminism from consumerism through exploring state violence against women, reproductive justice, transmisogyny, sex work, gendered Islamophobia and much more, showing that the struggle for gendered liberation is a struggle for justice, one that can transform the world for everyone. Join Lola Olufemi, in discussion with author Yara Rodrigues-Fowler, to discuss her latest book.

Event organised with the Friends of South Lambeth Library.





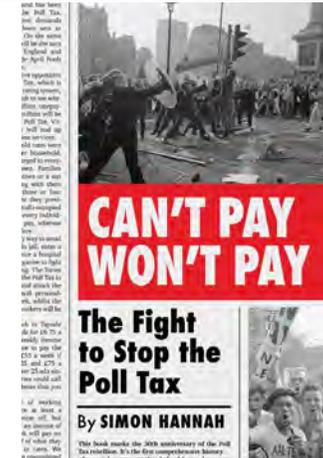
Radical Readers: Can't Pay, Won't Pay: The Fight to Stop the Poll Tax with author Simon Hannah
Friday 14 May, 7pm

[Eventbrite](#) [Book here](#)

Thirty years ago, a social movement helped bring down one of the most powerful British Prime Ministers of the 20th Century.

For the 30th anniversary of the Poll Tax rebellion, Simon Hannah looks back on those tumultuous days of resistance, telling the story of the people that beat the bailiffs, rioted for their rights and defied a government.

Join the Radical Readers to discuss the book with author Simon Hannah. For a copy of the book and to join the discussion please contact the library on 020 7926 1056.

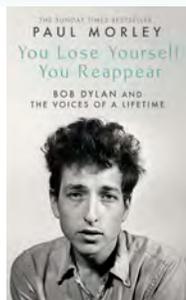


Digital Originals – Writing Competition for Lambeth residents with publishers Simon & Schuster
Saturday 15 May

For entry details and information visit [Simon & Schuster's Books](#) and the [City website](#)

Lambeth Libraries and publisher Simon & Schuster are delighted to announce that they will be hosting a #DigitalOriginals #OneDay open submission day (#LoveLamLibOneDay) exclusively for residents of the London Borough of Lambeth, enabling authors to bypass the traditional route to publishing and submit, for the first time, directly to the editorial team.

S&S are inviting residents of Lambeth to submit the first three chapters of their unpublished fiction manuscript on 15 May 2021 for consideration for #DigitalOriginals, the S&S eBook first publishing programme, as part of the Lambeth Libraries Readers and Writers Literary Festival 2021.



The Many Voices of Bob Dylan with Paul Morley Tuesday 18 May, 7pm

[Eventbrite](#) [Book here](#)

Join Paul Morley to discuss his new insightful biography of one of the world's greatest musicians, Bob Dylan, who has enriched the American song tradition for over 50 years. With a talent that has been proven in the worlds of music, radio, art

and poetry, Dylan is a man of many personas. From defying pop music conventions with protest songs such as *The Times They Are a-Changin'* to releasing three of the most influential rock albums of the 60s, he has not only extended the parameters of music genres but has also shown us the fluidity of his craft. To mark Bob Dylan's 80th birthday and 60 illustrious years in the arts, this new biography, *You*

Lose Yourself You Reappear: The Many Voices of Bob Dylan, explores the many voices of the folk icon.

Paul Morley is an English music journalist, well known for his work with the *New Musical Express*. He was a co-founder of the record label ZTT Records and was a member of the synthpop group Art of Noise.



Leone Ross – This One Sky Day Wednesday 19 May, 7pm

[Eventbrite](#) [Book here](#)

As the sun rises, two star-crossed lovers try to find their way back to one another across this single day. When night falls, all have been given a gift, and many are no longer the same. The sky is pink, and some wonder if it will ever be blue again.

Join Leone to discuss her latest stunning and unforgettable new novel.

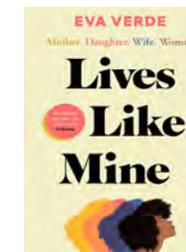
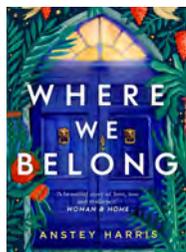


A night to celebrate Love, Life, Laughter... and school-run affairs!

Thursday 20 May, 7pm

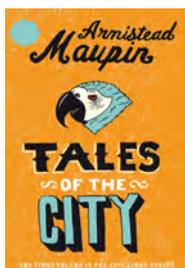
[Eventbrite](#) [Book here](#)

Join us for a very special virtual event with four fantastic authors.



Anstey Harris will talk about her heart-breaking new novel *Where We Belong*, James Bailey introduces us to his hilarious debut *The Flipside*, Mike Gayle will share what his recent Romantic Novelists' Association Outstanding Achievement Award,

and shortlisting for the inaugural British Book Award Pageturner Award, means to him and talk about his life-affirming new novel, *All the Lonely People*, and Eva Verde, will discuss her bitter sweet (Kit de Waal endorsed) debut *Lives Like Mine*.



LGBTQ+ book club discuss Tales of the City by Armistead Maupin

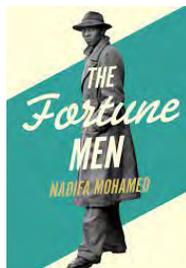
Friday 28 May, 7pm

[Eventbrite](#) [Book here](#)

Fresh out of Cleveland, naive Mary Ann tumbles headlong into

a brave new world of pot-growing landladies, cut-throat debutantes, spaced-out neighbours and outrageous parties. Finding a job as a secretary at an ad agency, Mary Ann wants to start her own life, away from her parents and with the flower-power freedom to make her own friends and her

own decisions. The saga that ensues introduces vignettes that are manic, romantic, tawdry and touching – unmistakably the handiwork of Armistead Maupin. Join Lambeth Libraries LGBTQ+ book club to discuss this now classic work.



Nadifa Mohamed – The Fortune Men

Thursday 3rd June

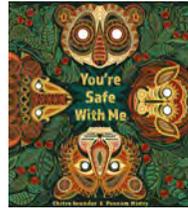
[Eventbrite](#) [Book here](#)

Mahmood Mattan is a fixture in Cardiff's Tiger Bay, 1952, which bustles with Somali and

West Indian sailors, Maltese businessmen and Jewish families. He is a father, chancer, some-time petty thief. He is many things, in fact, but he is not a murderer. So, when a shopkeeper is brutally killed and all eyes fall on him, Mahmood

isn't too worried. It is true that he has been getting into trouble more often since his Welsh wife Laura left him. But Mahmood is secure in his innocence in a country where, he thinks, justice is served. Join Nadifa to discuss her fantastic new novel.

EVENTS FOR CHILDREN



**Meet Children's Book Author
Chitra Soundar**
Thursday 6 May, 2pm to 3pm

[Eventbrite](#) [Book here](#)

Listen to children's author and storyteller read from her beautifully illustrated books *You're Safe with Me* and *You're Strong With Me*, heart-warming stories suitable for families with babies and young children, followed by songs and rhymes. We will be sending Chitra's

books to attendees after the session.

Delivered in partnership with Lambeth Early Years Partnership (LEAP) and Lantana Publishing.

For Under 3s.



**Special rhyme and storytime
– Guest author Karen Farrell**
Thursday 13 May, 2pm

[Eventbrite](#) [Book here](#)

Karen is the author of a newly published children's picture book called *Munchkin's Adventures* which follows the imaginary adventures of her daughter Alice. The idea came to Karen while she was on maternity leave

watching her little one grow up and wondering what adventures she was getting up to while her parents went about their daily activities.



**Special rhyme and storytime
– Guest author Sandra
Moodie**
Thursday 13 May, 2pm

[Eventbrite](#) [Book here](#)

Sandra is the author of *Aminata and the Bag of Seeds*. Her work has stretched over three decades with children in schools, parents and families in her roles as a community leader and Children's Centre Manager. In January 2020 Sandra started sponsoring Aminata Jaru, a little girl in The Gambia, to provide

her school essentials. During the first lockdown she wrote a story featuring Aminata as the main character to inspire her and her peers at Bojang Tamba School in a village called Lamin.

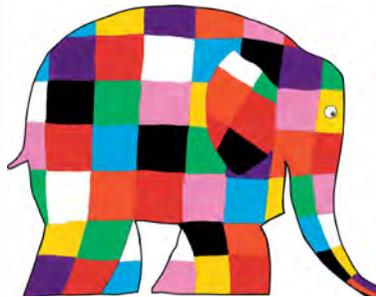
EVENTS FOR CHILDREN



Special rhyme and storytime
– Guest author Lee Attard
Thursday 13 May, 2pm

Eventbrite [Book here](#)

Lee Attard is the author/illustrator of the children's picture book *The Crocodile Who Couldn't Swim* and is also the founder of Toon World. Toon World is a children's brand featuring an ever-growing selection of cartoon animal characters, bringing you a super fun collection of rhyming children's books.



Elmer Day
Saturday 29 May
All Lambeth Libraries online

Elmer makes the world a much brighter place. For this year's Elmer Day help us spread the positivity of Elmer by getting your own free resources and join the celebration in May. See your local library for details or visit <https://www.elmer.co.uk/elmer-day/>



LAMBETH LIBRARIES

Brixton Library

Brixton Oval
SW2 1JQ
Tel: 020 7926 1058

Carnegie Library

192 Herne Hill Road
SE24 0AG
Tel: 020 7926 6050

Clapham Library

Mary Seacole Centre
91 Clapham High Street
SW4 7DB
Tel: 020 7926 0717

Durning Library

167 Kennington Lane
SE11 4HF
Tel: 020 7926 8682

Minet Library

52 Knatchbull Road
SE5 9QY
Tel: 0207 926 6073

Streatham Library

63 Streatham High Road
SW16 1PN
Tel: 020 7926 6768

Tate South Lambeth Library

180 South Lambeth Road
SW8 1QP
Tel: 020 7926 0705

Upper Norwood Library

39-41 Westow Hill
SE19 1TJ
Tel: 020 7926 1063

Waterloo Library

The Oasis Centre
1 Kennington Road
SE1 7QP
Tel: 0207 926 8751

West Norwood Library

1-5 Norwood High Street
SE27 9JX
Tel: 020 7926 8092

This information was believed to be correct at the time it was published, but may be subject to changes and circumstances outside the control of the organisers. For more events and information visit www.lambeth.gov.uk/events

Booking: Unless otherwise stated please book by phoning the local library or emailing libraries@lambeth.gov.uk