

## About Ver Poets

We offer performances of classic and modern poems, workshops to help you hone your skills - and the chance to meet fellow enthusiasts and learn about the fascinating world of modern poetry. We are a St Albans based poetry society with a national and international membership.

Founded in 1966 by May Badman, this poetry society offers a warm welcome to all, visitors and members alike. Whether you are keen to write, or simply enjoy reading poetry or hearing it read, you will find much to inspire and entertain.

Many of our events are held at St Michael's Parish Centre, often on the third Friday of the month:

St Michael's Parish Centre,

St Michael's St, St Albans AL3 4SL

No correspondence to this address

Entry - at the door

£4 non-members; £2 members

Refreshments served at the interval. Open Mic at most meetings.

Free Parking at Verulamium Museum Car Park, adjacent to the parish centre.

## Join Ver Poets

Membership £18; Overseas £24

Full time students: £12

- 3 Newsletters per year
- Concessionary entry to evening meetings
- Entry to members' competitions
- Attendance at day workshops

### Each new member receives:

- Welcome pack, including current newsletter
- Free critique of 6 poems

Membership enquiries: Greg Smith

01582 715817; gregsmith480@gmail.com

Programme enquiries: Simon Bowden

simonbowden33@gmail.com

See website [www.verpoets.co.uk](http://www.verpoets.co.uk)

for further details and membership form



Find us on Facebook

# Ver Poets

## Programme 2016-17

Founder: *May Badman*

President: *John Mole*

Vice-President: *Carole Satyamurti*



*Kingsbury Mill, St Albans  
illustration by Chris Delaney*

## Ver Poets Programme 2016

See overleaf for address of St Michael's Parish Centre

*Friday, September 16th at 7.30pm*

### **FREE EVENT: AGM and Summer Competition results**

**St Michael's Parish Centre**

Ver Poets AGM and results of the summer competition Poems about Childhood, judged by Ver Poets Chairman Terry Jones.

A chance to hear the poems and have your say about the Society. Refreshments at half time. Note earlier start time at St Michael's.

*Tuesday, September 20th at 7.00pm*

### **London Launch of Wheel of the Stars**

**Lumen, 88 Tavistock Place WC1H 9RT**

*Wheel of the Stars* is the 50th anniversary anthology of Ver Poets. All welcome - there is a team of 16 readers for this event. Entry £5, all proceeds to homeless charity.

*Wednesday, October 19th at 7.30pm*

### **Poems of Physical and Mental Healing**

**St Albans Central Library, The Maltings, AL1 3JQ**

Four distinguished poets, John Mole, Wendy French, Rebecca Hubbard and Valerie Morton read poems on themes of sickness and recovery. There will be an open mic for short poems on this subject and a chance to ask questions at the end. Note earlier start time at library.

*Friday, November 4th st at 7.00pm*

### **Chernobyl Thirty Years On - words and music**

**Camden Lumen, 1 Buck Street, NW1 8NJ**

This performance of Heavy Water by Mario Petrucci was described as memorable and uplifting by John Mole. It uses actors, music and narrative to frame the poems, which show the human response to an ecological disaster. Venue is 5 minutes from Camden Town tube. Open Mic. Doors at the church open at 6.30 for 7 pm. Entry £5, all proceeds to homeless charity.

*Friday, November 18th st at 8.00pm*

### **American Poetry - old and new**

**St Michael's Parish Centre**

An evening with leading young American authors Robert Peake and Ron Villanueva. There will be a chance to read your own favourite American poems and a discussion of how styles differ across the Atlantic. We hope to show a film poem too.

*Thursday, December 15th from 7.00pm*

### **Christmas Party - with poems on a seasonal theme**

**A pub room, probably the Rose and Crown**

FREE EVENT. There will be sandwiches and nibbles and a chance to meet fellow members and read a poem or two. Hopefully some live music as a bridge between the words.

## Some Planned Events for 2017

*Friday, January 20th - TBA*

*February Event: date TBA*

### **Ten Liners Adjudication**

The results of our members-only Ten Liners competition judged by Hertfordshire poet John Gohorry. We will read as many of the poems as we have time for – and hopefully hear some of John's poems too.

*Friday, March 17th at 8.00pm*

### **John Skelton, the first Poet Laureate**

**St Michael's Parish Centre**

Laura Garratt will tell us about John Skelton, the colourful, satirical writer who was tutor to Henry VIII. There will be a discussion and the chance to read a poem by a poet laureate of your choice.

*April Event: date TBA*

### **Victorian Gems**

**St Mary's Church, Childwick Green**

A celebration of the 150th anniversary of St Mary's on the Childwickbury Estate, St Albans AL3 6JU. This beautiful Victorian church designed by Gilbert Scott (best known for his work on St Pancras Station) will host an evening led by Terry Jones featuring poetry of the Victorian era and religious verse of all ages. It will include work by William Morris who designed one of the altar-cloths still in use in the church.