

**Slipstream Poets**      **6<sup>th</sup> November 2017**

Venue:      *Trinity Centre, Thakeham Road, Storrington RH20 3NG*  
7.p.m. for a prompt start at 7.15 please **fee: £5.00 or £7.50 see note \***

# Fireworks



A

## poetry writing workshop with John Davies

This workshop is designed to get you thinking about and practising your own particular poetic virtuosity. You may enjoy constructing poems using traditional forms or exploring innovative techniques. But however you approach the task of writing a poem, this workshop should bring you plenty of ammunition.

Lighting the blue touch paper...

We'll begin by looking at two or three poems that I have chosen as interesting examples of technical accomplishment. We'll read the poems (volunteers stand by!) and discuss what makes them work, if indeed they do for you.

Sparklers...

If you have a poem you're working on which you feel is beginning its trajectory to amazing, then please bring it along. We may not have time to discuss everyone poems but we can put the authors' names in a hat and choose a few. Please bring enough copies for the group.

Retire to a safe distance...

After a warm up exercise, you'll have time to write a first draft of a poem to display your marvellous talent and astonish the other participants. We'll share a few. Expect oohs and ahs.

Damp squib

It's a first draft so a few may not go off the way you hoped. I'd like to spend a little time looking at these too to discuss options and opportunities.



John Davies is a writer and poet based in Brighton.

John's published work includes two pamphlet collections and the full collection *Shedman*, as well as *Our Storeys*, a book about art and poetry in healthcare, written with artist Sue Ridge.

In 2017, he was the first non-Irish editor of *The Stony Thursday Book*, an annual anthology of contemporary poetry published in Ireland. *Jizz*, *New and Selected Poems* will be published in the UK by Kingston University Press and in North America by Red Hen Press in February 2018.

John is perhaps best known as his poetic alter ego, *Shedman*, the original itinerant poet in a shed who has appeared at numerous festivals and events. As *Shedman*, his commissioned work has ranged from poems engraved into the windows of a learning centre on the Cambridge Biomedical Campus, to major hospital projects with artist Sue Ridge.

*\*annual membership £5 per session; or occasional attendance @ £7.50 per session.*

**Slipstream Committee:**      *Mandy Pannett (Chair) 01798 873841*  
*Diana Mitchener (Treasurer), Gillie Reid (Secretary), David Slade (Web)*