



CITY READS



2018

ONE CITY. ONE BOOK.
A THOUSAND CONVERSATIONS...

23 APRIL – 13 MAY

**SACRED
COUNTRY**
ROSE TREMAIN

CITYREADS.CO.UK

INFORMATION

VENUES

BRIGHTON & HOVE HIGH SCHOOL

Senior Hall Montpelier Road, BN1 3AT

DEPOT

Pinwell Rd, Lewes, BN7 2JS

JUBILEE LIBRARY

Jubilee Street, Brighton, BN1 1GE

THE LATEST MUSIC BAR

4-17 Manchester St, Brighton, BN2 1TF

THE LOUNGE BAR

14 Ship St, Brighton, BN1 1AD

THE MARLBOROUGH PUB AND THEATRE

4 Princes Street, Brighton, BN2 1RD

WATERSTONES BRIGHTON

71-74 North St, Brighton, BN1 1ZA

THE WRITERS' PLACE

9 Jew St, Brighton, BN1 1UT

ENQUIRIES:

INFO@COLLECTEDWORKS.CO.UK

TICKETS:

CITYREADS.CO.UK

FUNDERS



PARTNERS



VINTAGE

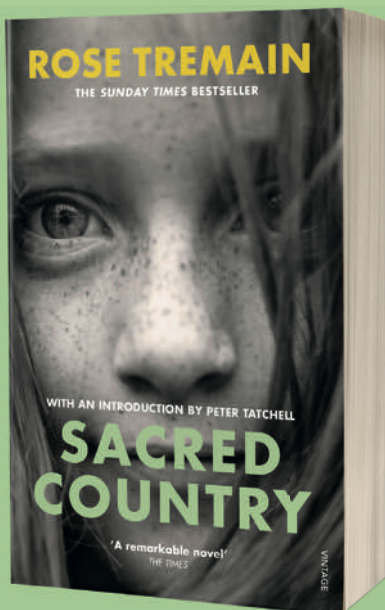
Waterstones

SUPPORTERS

Huge thanks also to: Carmen and the team at Depot, Lily at Jessica Kingsley Publishers, Katie at Allsorts Youth Project, Rose Tremain, Nicolette Jones, Helen Flood at Vintage, Andrew Comben, Beth Burgess, Bee Sparks and staff at Brighton Festival, Rich Naiff at Waterstones, Norah Carr, Lucy Castle, Stephanie Coates and staff at Brighton & Hove Libraries, Juliette Buss at Photoworks, William Shaw, Jamie at The Lounge Bar, Jeff at The Latest Music Bar, the Booky Photo Booth team: Nicola Benge, Adam Kemeney, Margaret Ousby, Pippa Smith, and Will Stalibrass, The City Reads team: Marina Burton, Tess Garrett, and Vicky Tremain, the Book Swap Box gang: Tash Padbury, Big Beach Cafe, Brighton Housing Trust, Cascade Recovery Cafe, Crew Club, David Sewell at Pavilion Gardens Cafe, St Mary's Kemptown and Lisa Lyon at Bond St Coffee. And lastly thank you to all our lovely volunteers.

SACRED COUNTRY BY ROSE TREMAIN

WHY THIS BOOK?



THIS YEAR CITY READS HAS CHOSEN TO READ, DISCUSS AND CELEBRATE ROSE TREMAIN'S REMARKABLE NOVEL: **SACRED COUNTRY**.

Written a quarter of a century ago it still feels fresh and important which is why it was the perfect choice for 2018.

Beginning in a Suffolk village in the early 1950s and moving through three decades, we come to know not only our central character Mary/Martin born as a girl into the wrong body, but also the family and characters within that small community; those who find happiness and their place in the world and those who struggle to do so. Rose Tremain is one of the UK's most respected writers and we are delighted to be welcoming her to Brighton & Hove in May to discuss this ground-breaking novel with readers across the city.

'**SACRED COUNTRY** is a powerful, compassionate novel, and each voice within it shows us something of ourselves. I'm looking forward to seeing how people, most especially trans people, feel about Mary/Martin's story and to discussing it in the weeks ahead. I hope City Reads will encourage readers old and new to discover and rediscover this remarkable book.'



SARAH HUTCHINGS - ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, CITY READS

CITY READS AT BRIGHTON FESTIVAL

SUNDAY 13 MAY

Brighton & Hove High School, 4pm, £8

ROSE TREMAIN IN CONVERSATION WITH NICOLETTE JONES

Complete your 2018 City Reads experience by joining Rose Tremain live at Brighton Festival, to hear an exclusive celebration of **SACRED COUNTRY**. Rose will talk to Nicolette Jones about her prize winning 1992 novel, sharing her extensive experience as a author and how she feels about **SACRED COUNTRY** a quarter of a century after its publication. There will be an opportunity for the audience to ask questions at the event.

NICOLETTE JONES is a writer, critic and broadcaster on radio and television. Her double award-winning book about the Victorian philanthropist Samuel Plimsoll and his campaign on behalf of sailors, *The Plimsoll Sensation* (Little, Brown/Abacus), was a Radio 4 Book of the Week. She also co-authored, with writer and illustrator Raymond Briggs, an anthology of his work: *Blooming Books* (Cape)



**'Sacred Country is a book that we give to
our friends and are glad to have read'**

THE NEW YORK TIMES

'I'm delighted that SACRED COUNTRY has been chosen for Brighton City Reads. It seems to me that this city, with its long tradition of tolerance and its talent for celebration is a place where Mary/Martin could have found happiness. To make this book live again for Brighton readers will be an honour.'

ROSE TREMAIN



© David Kirkham

THE BOOK

1952. STANDING IN A COLD SUFFOLK FIELD WITH HER FAMILY, SIX-YEAR-OLD MARY WARD HAS A REVELATION: I AM NOT MARY. THAT IS A MISTAKE. I AM NOT A GIRL. I'M A BOY.

So begins Mary's heroic struggle to change gender. Moving from the claustrophobic rural community of the 1950s to London in the swinging Sixties and beyond to the glitter of America in the Seventies, *Sacred Country* is the story of a journey to find a place of safety and fulfilment in a savage and confusing world.

THE AUTHOR

Rose Tremain's novels and short stories have been published in thirty countries and have won many awards, including the Orange Prize (*The Road Home*), the Dylan Thomas Award (*The Colonel's Daughter and Other Stories*), the Whitbread Novel of the Year (*Music & Silence*) and the James Tait Black Memorial Prize (*Sacred Country*). Her most recent novel, *The Gustav Sonata*, was a *Sunday Times* Top Ten Bestseller. It won the National Jewish Book Award in the US, the South Bank Sky Arts Award in the UK and was shortlisted for three other prizes, including the Costa Novel Award. Rose Tremain was made a CBE in 2007. She lives in Norfolk and London with the biographer, Richard Holmes.

'We're thrilled that Rose Tremain's SACRED COUNTRY has been picked for this year's City Reads... It's a story about the search for identity and finding fulfilment in an unforgiving world that resonates as strongly today as when it was first published 25 years ago.'

VICTORIA MURRAY-BROWNE – SENIOR EDITOR, VINTAGE.

THE BOOKY PHOTOBOOTH IS BACK!

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH BRIGHTON & HOVE LIBRARIES

Once again we are teaming up with Brighton & Hove Libraries and Photobot.co to create a snapshot of the city's reading habits. Events start on WORLD BOOK NIGHT so come along, take a #shelfie and join in the fun! Suitable for all ages. Fully wheelchair accessible.

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

MONDAY 23 APRIL - 5 MAY

Jubilee Library, during library opening hours. Free.
Full event details at cityreads.co.uk

MONDAY 23 APRIL
(World Book Night)
BOOK SWAP

Jubilee Library, 5pm, Free

BRING A BOOK TO SWAP.

Not just any old book, mind; something you really liked and may struggle to part with. Grab a cup of tea or coffee from the cafe and we'll provide some cake!

TUESDAY 24 APRIL
QUEER LOOKS with Martin Pel
Jubilee Library, 3pm, Free

Join Brighton Museum curator Martin Pel to hear all about the Museum's Queer Looks project. There will be cake!

MONDAY 23 APRIL
(World Book Night)
BOOKISH

Jubilee Library, 7.30pm, Free

FIVE MINI SHOWS ARE ON OFFER, each inspired by a different book, there will be a live vote on the night, and two of the shows will be performed.

Suitable for ages 10+



Bookish: Laura Mugridge and Tom Adams

SATURDAY 28 APRIL
ARE YOU A BOY OR ARE
YOU A GIRL?

Jubilee Library, 10.15am, Free

STORYTIME WITH FOX FISHER & SARAH SAVAGE

In association with Jessica Kingsley Publishers

Join award winning trans artist, filmmaker and human rights campaigner Fox Fisher and trans writer Sarah Savage as they read from and discuss their children's picture book about gender identity.

Suitable for all ages



Fox Fisher

SATURDAY 28 APRIL
YOUNG, QUEER AND INVINCIBLE In association with
Allsorts Youth Project and Photoworks
Jubilee Library, 2-4pm, Free

FREE CREATIVE DROP-IN SESSION AIMED AT ALL YOUNG LGBTQ+ PEOPLE IN THE CITY AND THEIR FRIENDS.

There will be a range of activities including a graphic novel drawing session with Queen Josephine, badge making and photography with Lynn Weddle. All welcome.

Suitable for ages 13 - 19

WEDNESDAY 2 MAY
BOOKY PORTRAITS -
with illustrator Paul Collicutt
Jubilee Library,
10.30am- 12.30pm, Free

FANCY GETTING CREATIVE and having a go at drawing a self portrait with your favourite book? All materials provided. Just drop in.



The Booky Photobooth



THURSDAY 26 APRIL

THE BeSPOKE BOOK GROUP

The Lounge Bar, 7.30pm, £5

A LIVE EVENT AND PODCAST WITH WILLIAM SHAW

FEATURING: FOX FISHER, SHARON DUGGAL, SUE KIM STEELE-
GREEN, JUNE MILES KINGSTON, CRAIG JORDAN-BAKER,
MARK RADCLIFFE AND MORE . . .

City Reads has gathered some wonderful, diverse cultural thinkers from across the city to become a book group for **one night only** to discuss SACRED COUNTRY. But they won't be on their own. Come along, grab a cocktail from the bar, listen to their discussion, and then join in.

Eavesdropping on all the chat will be author William Shaw, sharing the evening's conversation via his regular podcast The Book Group. It could get lively!

*Find William Shaw's podcast The Book Group on: iTunes, Overcast and other platforms for this and all episodes.

LOOK OUT FOR OUR FREE BOOK SWAP BOXES AT: Big Beach Cafe, Bond Street Coffee, Cascade Recovery Cafe (Baker Street), Crew Club (East Brighton), Pavilion Gardens Cafe, and St Mary's Kempton.

TUESDAY 1 MAY DEBUT NOVELISTS NIGHT

In association with New Writing South and Waterstones

Waterstones, Brighton, 7.30 pm, £3 (includes a glass of wine)

Tickets direct from Waterstones

RECOMMENDED FOR BOOK LOVERS AND ASPIRING WRITERS.

Allie Rogers' widely praised debut, *Little Gold* tells the story of a boyish girl on the brink of adolescence, who is struggling with the reality of her broken family and a home descending into chaos, Polly Clark's memorable debut *Larchfield* is a beautiful novel about a woman's struggle with isolation and sanity interwoven with a narrative about the poet W. H. Auden. They will be talking to Sharon Duggal (who's remarkable debut *The Handsworth Times* was the City Reads book for 2017) discussing the process of writing, finding the right agent and getting published.



Allie Rogers



Polly Clark © Murdo McLeod



Sharon Duggal

TRANS MADE

FRIDAY 27 APRIL

JUNO DAWSON'S LOVELY TRANS LITERARY SALON

In association with The Marlborough
The Marlborough Pub and Theatre,
7.30pm (until late) £9.50/£7.50

THE ACCLAIMED WRITER OF *THE GENDER GAMES* WELCOMES SOME OF HER FAVOURITE TRANS AUTHORS TO THE MARLBOROUGH THEATRE to celebrate the wealth of trans talent writing in the UK right now. Join us for a night of readings, animated conversation and a bit of a party! Access and ticket info: marlboroughtheatre.org.uk



Juno Dawson

SUNDAY 29 APRIL

TRANS LIVES - CREATIVE WRITING WITH TRAVIS

ALABANZA In association with
New Writing South

The Writers' Place, 1.30pm -
4.30pm, Free (but registration
is essential).

WHAT DOES A TRANS POETIC LOOK LIKE? And what does it mean to write ourselves into history? Join leading trans creative, Travis Alabanza for a safe and supportive writing workshop that is open exclusively to trans, non-binary and intersex people. No previous writing experience is necessary.



Travis Alabanza

THE CITY READS BOOK QUIZ

WEDNESDAY 25 APRIL THE CITY READS BOOK QUIZ IN LEWES

Depot (Lewes),
7pm - 9pm, £5

WEDNESDAY 2 MAY THE CITY READS BOOK QUIZ IN BRIGHTON

The Latest Music Bar,
7pm - 9pm, £5



WEDNESDAY 9 MAY CELLULOID CITY READS

In association with Depot cinema
Depot, Lewes 8pm, £8/£4
lewesdepot.org

HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW ABOUT BOOKS? CLASSICS, CRIME BOOKS, Highbrow and Lowbrow books? Whatever you've read, always meant to read, or simply bluffed your way through, come along and test your knowledge at the ever popular City Reads Book Quiz.

There will be questions on everything: from genre fiction to literary classics, plus a dedicated round on Rose Tremain and *SACRED COUNTRY*.

Join a team or bring your own. There will be brainteasers aplenty for book lovers of all persuasions. Wine and soft drinks available.



TOMBOY

Written and directed by Céline Sciamma (*Water Lilies*, *Girlhood*)
82 mins 2011 [U] French Subtitled

Exploring the theme of ambiguous gender, *Tomboy* is the beautifully told story of Laure, a 10-year-old girl who moves into a new neighborhood and decides to dress like a boy. At a time in a young life, when everything is still open, she experiments with her gender identity.

CITY READS AT A GLANCE

BOOKY PHOTO BOOTH

Mon 23 April - Sat 5 May, Jubilee Library

CITY READS BOOK SWAP

Mon 23 April, 5pm, Jubilee Library

BOOKISH

Mon 23 April, 7.30pm, Jubilee Library

QUEER LOOKS TALK WITH MARTIN PEL

Tues 24 April, 3pm, Jubilee Library

CITY READS BOOK QUIZ (LEWES)

Wed 25 April, 7pm, Depot

BESPOKE BOOK GROUP

Thur 26 April, 7.30pm, The Lounge Bar

JUNO DAWSON'S TRANS LITERARY SALON

Fri 27 April, 7.30pm, The Marlborough

STORY TIME WITH FOX FISHER & SARAH SAVAGE

Sat 28 April, 10.15am, Jubilee Library

YOUNG QUEER AND INVINCIBLE

Sat 28 April, 2pm - 4pm, Jubilee Library

TRANS WRITING WORKSHOP

Sun 29 April, 1.30pm, The Writers' Place

DEBUT NOVELISTS NIGHT

Tues 1 May, 7.30pm, Waterstones

CITY READS BOOK QUIZ (BRIGHTON)

Wed 2 May, 7pm, The Latest Music Bar

BOOKY PORTRAITS WITH PAUL COLLICUTT

Wed 2 May, 10.30am - 12.30pm, Jubilee Library

CELLULOID CITY READS - TOMBOY [U]

Weds 9 May, 8pm, Depot

ROSE TREMAIN IN CONVERSATION

Sun 13 May, 4pm, Brighton & Hove High School

ENQUIRIES: INFO@COLLECTEDWORKS.CO.UK

TICKETS: CITYREADS.CO.UK

One city. One book. A thousand conversations...