

Interchange Meets @...

Interchange (Bradford Writers' Network) meets every Tuesday from 8pm at the Irish Democratic League, Rebecca St, just behind the New Beehive, Westgate.

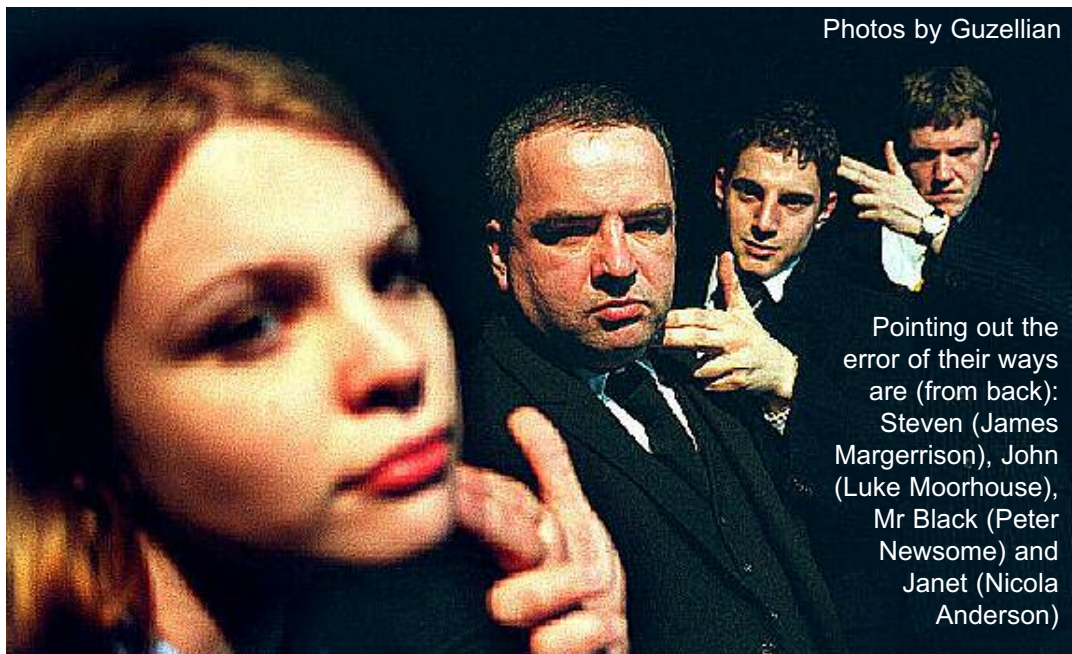
The sessions are informal and provide a sounding board for members' work, as well as constructive criticism and feedback should this be required.

Support, encouragement and words are at the forefront of the group's activities, and all kinds of writing is welcomed: poetry, short and long fiction, plays, memoirs, articles and songs.

Inside this issue...

ACT's Welcome To Paradise reviewed, sounds of Bradford reviewed, news, views and events

Credit where it's due



Photos by Guzellian

Pointing out the error of their ways are (from back): Steven (James Margerrison), John (Luke Moorhouse), Mr Black (Peter Newsome) and Janet (Nicola Anderson)

Joe Ogden says credit certainly equals merit for *Welcome To Paradise*, a daring piece of new writing staged by ACT recently at the Priestley

WHAT do get if you cross, Aldous Huxley's *Brave New World* (1932), a touch of Eric Blair's *1984*, (1948) the Janet and John Books and the twisted humour of G&S's *Ruddigore*? Not half a bad play actually.

Just imagine Steven's plight; your laying in bed wearing

your fevered red bed socks, when four MIBs (or wMIBs in this case) enter the room and drag you off!

In the office of Mr Black, you're told that you've done nothing — nothing at all for some time! Not got drunk, not socialised, not had a street fight and not F- F- fooled around with women, which means, you're a bad

citizen!

Think of the economy; all those publicans, police, nurses and physicians, that would be unemployed if we all stopped doing this sort of thing.

In this hedonistic meritocracy where Merit = Credit, so-called fun is mandatory. And Steve is sent out on his week long odyssey to up his credit, a sexual psychopath, drink, a bookish pro (and narrator),

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BACK ISSUES FROM: <http://www.tykewriter.supanet.com/tw/>

So long, Orpheus

ORPHEUS takes a break over the summer, after yet another month where the performers outnumbered the audience.

The dwindling numbers of people prepared to be entertained by guest performers and open mic slots was something of a double blow for the May gig.

The night was used to stage Peace Aid, a special night of poetry and song to raise funds for charity to aid war-torn countries, most notably Iraq.

In terms of the quality of work, the evening was a big success, featuring some great open mic poets as well as the featured slot of Karl Dallas and guests.

Alas, people to appreciate the words were somewhat thin on the ground.

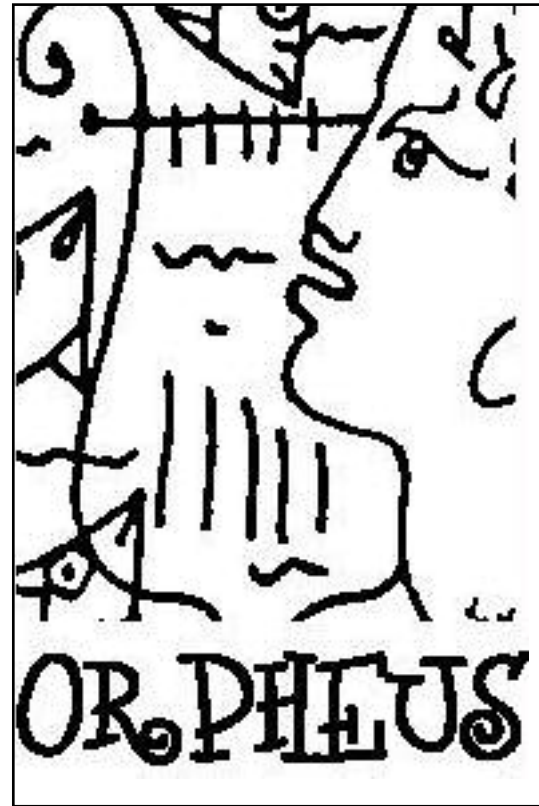
As it was, the evening failed to recover the costs of the raffle, which should have played its part in raising funds. The night raised around £43 from on-the-door donations and the sale of raffle tickets.

Peace Aid was organised by Karl Dallas and featured much of his poetry and song. He was joined by guest performers Mark Cantrell, Joe Ogden, Gloria Dallas and Kevin Flaherty. Together they read out their poetry on the themes of peace, love and war — and 'other adolescent fantasies'.

The evening started with open mic slots for local performers.

Orpheus was launched just over a year ago to replace the Interchange @ the Melborn. This in turn had been launched after Interchange members staged a successful performance tour of the States with a CD called *Release the Bradford Six*. Upon their return, they were determined to bring open mic poetry events to Bradford. The Melborn was the first of these and very much the 'flagship' event.

Orpheus represented a relaunch and changed its format by introducing paid head-



line guests to pull in audience figures.

The plan is that Orpheus will return in some form in the Autumn. However, there is a risk that the last Wednesday of the month slot will be lost. Performance junkies should watch this space for further developments.

Give 'em some credit

Continued from page 1

more drink, Janet, not John, drink...

Meanwhile Black has plans and Steve, now new model citizen(?), is given a job in the Ministry of Rehabilitation. Set a thief to catch a thief, maybe?'

The play had a strong cast without exception, Black (Peter Newsome) really internalised his character. It's the darkest humour

I've seen at the Priestley. The public announcements were something else and the sub plots of Janet and John and Gill (*Who Gill? -Ed*), even I could follow.

Watch for the twist at the end, proving the same charters rise to the top which ever extreme society we live in. The play makes you think, but I wonder what Michael Young would have made of the play when he

Black (Peter Newsome) tells Steven (James Magerrison) to get fucked (literally) or else...



coined the word meritocracy in 1958?

Well, now I'm off to up my credit, ...er does anyone have the number of the psychopath?

Joe Ogden

Next Month: Tyke Writer talks to the man responsible for *Welcome To Paradise*. Catch the interview with the play's writer Andrew Crowther in August.

Breath of prose

THE Word Hoard is to run an intensive summer school for novelists and short story writers.

Fierce Pleasure: writing fiction that breathes will run for five days between Monday 28th July and Friday 1st August between 10am and 4pm. Canadian novelist Nancy Lee will teach the course. The fee will be £150.

The course will help authors find their own authentic voice

through writing and discussion. It will cover different aspects of fiction writing, including different approaches to structure, character development, re-writing and editing.

For more details contact the Word Hoard at The Media Centre, 7 Northumberland Street, Huddersfield, HD1 1RL. Tel: 01484 483188. Check the website at: <http://www.wordhoard.co.uk/fiercepleasure.htm>.

Time to write

SHORT stories on the theme of time are wanted for a new competition organised by the Aurora Publishing group, writes Mark Cantrell.

The twelve winners will be published in an anthology and get four free copies, as well as a share of retail profits. Every entrant will also receive a reader's report, the group says.

For more information visit the website at <http://www.aurora-publishing.co.uk>. The deadline for entries is Friday, 8th August.

Walk the world

A new small press magazine that will work to a different theme each issue is seeking submissions of poetry, fiction and articles.

The magazine is called *Walk This World* and the first two issues were published on a theme of Weather then Fame. Forthcoming issues will be on Terrorism (due 21st September) followed by Teenagers.

Articles should be 1,000 words and short fiction should be up to 2,000 words. Poetry can be of

any length or style. A retro reviews section looks at classic albums, books and films and does not have to follow the issue's subject.

Children are welcome to submit material, but they are asked to state their age.

Issues one and two are available for a price of £1.50 (cheques payable to the editor Mark Cope).

For more information or to buy issues write to: *Walk In This World*, PO Box 627, York, YO32 2WJ. Or email: Walkthisworldmag@aol.com.

Get schizo

NINE Hearts Publishing have launched an anthology featuring a foreword by Tyke Writer editor Mark Cantrell.

The foreword is based upon an article that appeared in the second issue of *Ubique* magazine that was published last year. On the basis of that appearance, Mark was asked if it could be used in *Diary of a Schizo*.

The book features work by Simon Harris, Courtesy Orchis and Matthew Hopkins and costs £2.50.

Diary of a Schizo (ISBN 0-9542100-2-6), available from Nine Hearts Publishing, 196 Balby Road, Balby, Doncaster, DN4 0NE. Or email courtorchis@yahoo.co.uk for further information.

Tribute to Dylan

THE Melbourn held a tribute night for Bob Dylan recently to celebrate the American writer, poet and rock legend's 62nd birthday, writes Kevin Flaherty.

Local artists were invited to perform and interpret Dylan's work from the last four decades.

The variety, range and quality of his words and music was enjoyed by a packed and enthusiastic hall.

A fitting tribute to America's greatest modern poet and 'lots of other things'.

Get Paddington

VIDEOS of the 2002 Paddington International Poetry Festival are now available from Uprise Arts.

The event, which took place in October last year, was hosted and directed by Seema Gill and Richard Heley, both names that are familiar at Interchange events.

Four 30-minute videos are available: *PIPF Slam*, *Songwriters*, *The Best of PIPF* and *Lip, Tongue & Ear*. The videos are priced at £10 each and will soon be available through Uprise Art's website: <http://www.uprisearts.com>.

"We received positive feedback from the funders who came to witness the event," said Seema Gill. "Out of eight hours of video recording we have managed to edit the films for anyone interested in ordering copies.

For more information contact Seema (seema@uprisearts.com) or Richard (richard@uprisearts.com).

Bang the drums for Moses

Joe Ogden ruminates on the launch of a CD featuring music, song and poetry and other sounds of Bradford...

NAY, I pay my £5 for the CD to listen to 'sounds o' Bradford.' You know, mills; trams; trains and trolley buses and I gets this music CD!

That was the only voice decent I heard about the event held at the Priestley Bar for the Launch of two CD's - Sounds of Bradford.

Moses Music launched the two set collection "Children" and "Youths & Adults" CD's of Bradford people, poets, percussionist and musicians in the Priestley. Back last Thursday in March. I know that's way back, but it wasn't till I was stopped in the street the other day by hEar4Words Poet Patrick Blues and then Moses, wanting his fiver for one of the CDs, that I remember, "Review! (now plug)

Well, I was there, Okay running the bar - that's important. To start, the open day, we were treated to a video, showing Moses, running his workshop, then a talk about the work of the Community Self Awareness Project to develop Bradford's music talent, then into the drum and beat, twenty minutes of hypnotic African drum sounds. Next it was the Audience's turn to join, in both of them. By two the first of the days sessions was all but over as the audience had to leave for a meeting she had. Steve "unsinkable" Bindman read bravely on, like the band on the Titanic as the bar was slowly and majestically closed and the lights faded out on him, with no relief ship in sight.

Later at home I

played the CD Y&A, a bit of a mixed bag but I liked it. Patrick Blues was a revelation, track 5 "You and Me" was quite tuneful, no bad feat if you'd been to Karaoke with him. Worth a £5? Maybe £3 to £4 is more its mark, I would say. Hell shell out for it, you hold history in your hands, and ears.

The night time opening faired much better, £4 in though, there was a jamming session, sorry to disappoint WI but this was a music Jam. Pat "Harmonic" Blues says "...it was very good to get to jam with real bands." Me, I saw it through a drunk haze, so I take his word for it, but you know he can be boastful at times - and why not.

If you want to work with Moses and put your poems to music, or buy the CD's £10 @ 2 - then call him on 01274 407237. Well done to all those involved.

The Tyke Writer is the monthly newsletter of the Interchange (Bradford Writers' Network).

For further details of the group, or to get involved, come down to the Irish Democratic League, Rebecca Street, behind the New Beehive pub.

Or contact:

Carol Solorz, secretary: 01274 570006

Email: interchange@brad.communigate.co.uk

Web: <http://www.communigate.co.uk/brad/interchange>

Editorial contributions are welcome, but will be edited for space and style.

All contributions must bear the author's name, which may appear as a byline. Contributions are also preferably received in type written form.

Opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Interchange (Bradford Writers' Network).

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Editor: Mark Cantrell
Contact:

Tel: 07986 234372
Fax: 0870 1643314
Email: tykewriter@supanet.com

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Redcar Writers is running its latest annual writing competition with an open subject.

Poems should be up to 40 lines and short stories up to 3000 words. Entries must be the original work of the author and must not carry identification. Author's name etc. should be on a separate sheet.

Work cannot be returned, so only send copies. For £5, a criticism service is offered containing judge's comments on

the submitted work with recommendations for editorial actions.

Entry fees are £2.00 per entry.

First Prize 50% of the pool for each category. Second prize 20%. Third prize 10%.

Closing date for entries 31st July 2003.

Entries with appropriate fees to: RED-CAR WRITERS, 76 Harwal Road, RED-CAR, Teesside, TS10 5AQ.