

TWVG NEWS

Hints & Tips | Activities | Top Books | Competitions

Word of the Month

Superlative

Meeting Dates

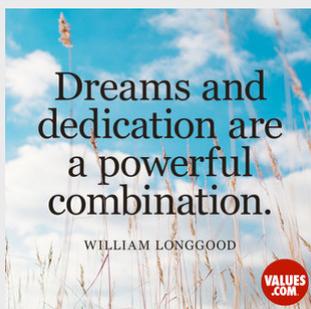
- 7-9pm Thursday 18th May
- 7-9pm Thursday 15th June

Writers' Forum Magazine Competition

Want to see YOUR story published? Writers' Forum have a monthly competition where your work could appear in their magazine.

1st Prize - **£300**, 2nd Prize - **£150** and 3rd Prize - **£100**

Entries must be between 1000 - 3000 words. For further details and entry visit www.writers-forum.com



Hay-On-Wye Festival

25th May - 4th June

Hay Festival brings readers and writers together to share stories and ideas in sustainable events around the world. The festivals inspire, examine and entertain, inviting participants to imagine the world as it is and as it might be. <http://www.hayfestival.com/wales>

Amanda Owen

A YEAR IN THE LIFE OF THE YORKSHIRE SHEPHERDESS

Saturday 27 May 2017, 10am

Venue: Good Energy Stage

The best-selling author describes the age-old cycle of a farming year and the constant challenges of life at Ravenseat, the remote Yorkshire hill farm she shares with husband Clive, nine children and 1,000 sheep.

Chaired by Oliver Balch, author of Under the Tump.

Price: £7.30



Victoria Hislop talks to Rosie Goldsmith

CARTES POSTALES FROM GREECE

Saturday 27 May 2017, 10am

Venue: Oxfam Moot

The beloved, bestselling author's new novel is illustrated with photographs that make this

journey around Greece, already alive in the imagination, linger forever in the mind. Hislop's other Greek novels include The Island and The Thread.

Price: £7.30



Women's Poetry Competition 2017

Every year Mslexia runs four competitions, open to women writers of all levels of experience.

This year, we're proud to launch the new, expanded Short Fiction competitions, with categories for both Short Story and Flash Fiction. For writers of long prose, we also have a Novel Competition, and for writers of verse we have a Poetry Competition for single poems and a Pamphlet Competition for completed collections.

With feedback and substantial monetary prizes available, our competitions were created to help women writers progress. Winners have gone on to secure publishing deals and literary agents after years of searching – this year it could be you. Good luck!

For further details visit:

<https://mslexia.co.uk/competitions/>

Words You probably don't know

Bumfuzzle

[buhm-fuhz-uhl]

Bumfuzzle means to confuse or fluster, from the southern US. This would make a good name for a puppy.

“Bumfuzzle! Come here, boy!” Not to be confused with San Francisco Giants pitcher Madison Bumgarner, who is also from the south.

Doohickey

[doo-hik-ee]

A *doohickey* is a “gadget; a dingus; a thingumbob.” One of those little things that sits in the kitchen junk drawer, used by hapless husbands who habitually misplace things and need their wives to bail them out. Example, in this case referencing a garage door opener: “Honey, have you seen the garage *doohickey*?” Using the term makes husbands feel a bit inadequate.

Fartlek

[fahrt-lek]

The word *fartlek* stands for a training technique associated with runners. Swedish in origin from the early 1950s, this word is funny for two reasons. First, it equates to a bodily function, which appeals to many of us on some addled Beavis and Butthead high school level. Second, many words can be made to sound funny just by adding “-lek” to the end. Heh-heh.

Shivoo

[shi-voo]

Shivoo is a recent Word of the Day. It's Australian in origination and stands for a “boisterous party or celebration.” You can totally imagine this happening Down Under, mate.

Snollygoster

[snol-ee-gos-ter]

Not generally used in contemporary culture, but we have a definition so we're going with it. A *snollygoster* is a “clever, unscrupulous person.” Since the word dates back to the late 1840s, you can kind of imagine Mark Twain using it in one of his tall tales. Not to be confused with a *snallygaster*, a mythical dragon-like creature that lurks around Washington D.C.

ACTIVITY

C N G O M Q J L F V B Q J Q G L K D X D L O A T Q P S O P
 H P M S N J C N E X T A L B N B B E A R Z Q C I I Y G U I
 M L P A W H U R U O P E M R F K E J G T T K I E A N A M P
 T T I K L C M N R D F T Q G Q D G S N V T O A U A C O I G
 G O F G T G C R I F N T J H P I O W U C W F C N E F O D R
 I Z X G B J A S A H X N B C J N E O C O Z X Y Z G A K A H
 E Y K T E P D R X R P D Y C X O L G N L M T C E D A U P S
 Y B Q T Z A I H O T G L G D H S T J D P C Y R K F G R A Y
 Q H O X W G R W O I M U O R U A R X T L E M A C A W W O C
 U C L I Y D V T E A G B O D P U U B V X Q J X J M K G H O
 D O L S Y S Y X H G I U Z A C R T N U Y K R E O F S I E T
 G K I S B Q B O S W H I A P J K H A Y T E W P M R M Z R K
 P A D A T J G T O F O C I N B C Q B B H U Y Y N P A Z N C
 A U A J U N B U H M T R L I A T C B T T T Y Y A T K T C A
 O A M Z I H Q R H J O J M H I L Y N R H G B N F D B S J N
 E X R M O G Z K T N A H P E L E A A O X U Z W J T M O M I
 Z H A B M A L E S R A F E V A P T N B T E I W Z B Z R L W
 W L C M S G S Y B H L O C Y D G C M T E F H A M S T E R S
 F Z H H U Z Q E H M L T Z M G X L E O Y J P D E K Z C E W
 Y Q M Z P S Z B V X I Q N K P N R E L Q L E R R D R O C P
 Z S O V O A D L Y S G R B D Z F D U A W Q N L P I L N W A
 D P S Y T G M I B C A E O J L Y T D F S G G V H I B I O R
 D O C C X S Z O O T J C Y L P K R F T X U U O B G H L T
 Z H P I O Y N A P R O F Y T R V G A U H V I W R U K R L B
 L Z S O E G B R T P R T G G B C Q P B N B N C S H U T H M
 G R D K H W O D A I S U M A T O P O P P I H S E W H I W T
 C U N M I D M K P O Q D P D V X R E K H O H K H E H Q P V
 B O R Z E T D A X N Q Q O G F H G L M O S Q U I T O K K M
 M V M O D N A C I L E P C O Y O T E R L Y P A A I L R F W

SCORPION
 CAMEL
 FLAMINGO
 DOLPHIN
 PENGUIN
 LEOPARD
 TURKEY
 PELICAN
 EAGLE
 HORSE
 BUFFALO
 PANTHER
 PYTHON
 ZEBRA
 MONKEY
 LIZARD
 IGUANA
 ARMADILLO
 EARTHWORM
 OCTOPUS
 MOUSE
 ELEPHANT
 GIRAFFE
 TURTLE
 KANGAROO
 BIRD
 MOSQUITO
 JAGUAR
 BEAR
 ALLIGATOR
 PARROT
 HAMSTER
 COYOTE
 CHIMPANZEE
 DINOSAUR
 BUTTERFLY
 HIPPOPOTAMUS
 RHINOCEROS

- 1 “You’ve just reached your one millionth hit on your YouTube video. What is the video about?”
- 2 “If you were to write the story of your life until now, what would you title it and why?”
- 3 “What’s a question that has changed how you understand the world? What changed?”
- 4 “Design your own three-and-a-half week course and describe what you would do.”
- 5 “A good story starts with a good beginning. Get us hooked in the first 150 words.”
- 6 “What one invention would you uninvent if you could, and why?”

Thoughts...

- Would you like to have more than one meet a month or is one enough - maybe a second meet to sit and write more? Drop me an e-mail or a message on WhatsApp with your thoughts.