

Dinesh Allirajah

Poet and short story writer. Dynamic and thought-provoking, a founder member of *Asian Voices*, *Asian Lives*, Dinesh has performed all over Britain and in Europe, and has featured on BBC Radio Merseyside, BBC TV's *Network East* and on Radio 4's *Loose Ends* and short story *The Prisoners*. Since 2003, he is a mentor on British Council/Lancaster University's *Crossing Borders* project with young writers in East Africa. Dinesh has also been guest poet on British Council tours in Bangladesh and Nigeria. He currently teaches creative writing at University of Central Lancashire.

"Dinesh had a good rapport with the pupils and the workshops were particularly successful." Mosslands School.

Publications include:

- A Manner of Speaking (Spike 2004)
and poems/short stories in:
- The Book of Liverpool (Comma Press 2008)
- Prospect Magazine (2004)
- Liverpool Stories Vol 1 (Comma Press 2004)
- Fertile Ground (Runnagate Press 1996)
- The Next Generation (Asian Voices, Asian Lives 1994)
- Images From The Other Side (Amauta Press 1992)

Performance/workshops with Key Stages 2, 3 and 4

Sherry Ashworth

Novelist who writes both adult and award winning young fiction and non-fiction. Currently senior lecturer in English and Creative Writing at Manchester Metropolitan University. Visiting author in schools and libraries. Winner of North East Book Award 2003, South Lanarkshire and Leicestershire Book Awards (2006). Runner-up in Wirral Paperback of the Year 2004 and short-listed for the Red House Book Award 2006.

“A fabulous day – Sherry was excellent and the students produced a magazine by the end of the day. The quality of the written work was wonderful and the students left school on a real high!” Parkside Secondary School, West Yorkshire

Publications include:

- Close Up (Simon and Schuster 2006)
- Paralysed (Simon and Schuster, 2005)
- The Dream Travellers (Simon & Schuster 2004)
- Blinded By The Light (Simon & Schuster 2003)
- Disconnected (Collins Flamingo 2002)
- Something Wicked (Collins Flamingo 2004)
- GCSE Guides for English Language/ English Literature (Scholastic 2001)

Author Talk/Workshops with Key Stages 3 and 4

Tracy Aston

Playwright. Tracy has twenty years experience of working in a variety of professional and community settings. Her work includes six plays for BBC Radio 4, a short dramatisation of the Nativity for BBC 1 and numerous plays for the Unity Theatre, Liverpool, including two Christmas shows for children. She has also written plays for youth theatres and schools .

In October 2007, Comma Press published her short story *Wide Eyed* in The Book of Liverpool anthology. Liverpool based company Red Octopus is using one of her stories as part of a sensory project for primary school children with special needs.

For the past eleven years, Tracy has been involved in many community creative writing, playmaking and reminiscence projects for people with mental health problems, survivors of abuse, elders, children with disabilities, residents of HMP Liverpool and aspiring writers of all ages.

Plays produced include, on BBC Radio 4:

- The Go Slow Club (2002)
- Mad Man Blue (1999 & 1998)
- The Crack (1993)

at the Unity Theatre Liverpool:

- Playing God (1995)
- The Frog Prince (1992)

Workshops with Key Stages 2 (Year 6), 3 and 4

David Bateman

Poet and writer. Overcoming a childhood stutter, David has performed his poetry throughout Britain and won numerous awards and competitions. He was nominated Best New Writing Talent in Liverpool Echo Arts and Entertainment Awards 1996, and was winner of the Liverpool Poetry Slam Championship 2007.

David has taught poetry and creative writing for Liverpool University Centre for Continuing Education and the WEA, and is a creative writing tutor for Liverpool City Council's Adult Learning Service. He also teaches in mental health day centres. He has poems published in over 20 children's anthologies.

"Seriously hysterical poetry... a genuinely amusing and frank entertainer" City & Guild Gazette

"Spot on" Roger McGough

Publications include:

- The Ideal God Competition (Reprobate 1989)
- From Jellybeans To Reprobation (Hybrid 1996)
- Curse Of The Killer Hedge (Iron Press 1996)
- A Homage To Me (Driftwood 2003)

and as anthology editor

- The Dead Good Poets Society: The Book (Headland 2005)

and poems in

- Smoke (1986, 1994, 1999, 2005, 2008)
- Wicked Poems (ed. Roger McGough, Macmillan 2002)
- Dinosaur Poems (ed. Paul Cookson, Scholastic 2006)
- Read Me At School (ed. Gaby Morgan, Macmillan 2009)

Performance/workshops with Key Stages 2, 3 and 4

Alison Chisholm

Poet. Readings and talks on all aspects of poetry throughout the country. Leads courses at writers' summer schools and has written a correspondence course in poetry for The Writers' College in Manchester. Alison has been poetry consultant to BBC Radio Merseyside and is also a poetry competition adjudicator.

"Alison related very well to the pupils. Our group was the lower ability and Alison was able to communicate in such a manner that pupils responded very well. The activities were appropriate to the topic." **Archbishop Beck High School**

Publications including poetry collections:

- Hold Tight (Headland 2009)
- Mapping The Maze (Headland 2004)
- Daring the Slipstream (Headland 1997)
- Paper Birds (Stride 1990)
- The Need for Unicorns (Stride 1987)

and non-fiction:

- The Handy Little Book of Tips for Poets (NAWG 2007)
- Writing Competitions: The Way to Win (with Ian Pattison, The Writers Bureau 2001)
- How to Write About Yourself (with Brenda Courtie, pub. Allison & Busby 1999)
- How To Write 5 Minute Features (Allison & Busby 1995)
- A Practical Poetry Course (1994)
- The Craft of Writing Poetry (Allison & Busby 1992)

Performance/workshops with Key Stages 1 - 4 and INSET

Bill Dawson

Screenwriter, Playwright, Poet and Storyteller. Bill has had many playwriting credits in youth, community and professional theatre. He has also directed a number of theatre plays and short films, as well as being a qualified drama worker. He has written for television and worked on The Bill and Brookside.

Bill has also completed his first novel for children entitled Camp Boot, which should be published in 2010. He has also been a storyteller in Museums, Libraries, Storytelling Clubs as well as other venues. Bill created and ran the first intake of the MA in Screenwriting at Liverpool John Moores University. He has also lectured in Creative Writing at Liverpool University for over ten years.

"Bill stimulates interest in children by bringing a different perspective to the classroom, not just because he's a professional writer but because he's so passionate about his subject." Pat Norton, Literacy Co-ordinator, St Dominic's PS

Films and plays include:

Mockingbirds, Your Move, Water Under the Bridge,

Big (A commission by the United Nations for the launch of Children's Rights Charter)

<http://www.bill-storyteller.co.uk>

<http://www.writinginsecreuse.co.uk>

Workshops with Key Stages 2, 3, 4, INSET and Parents

Alison Down

Screen, drama writer and performance poet. Highly collaborative and inclusive approach to drama and writing projects; and uses digital games to develop narrative skills.

She has written award-winning British Film Council short film Flight (2004), which premiered in Cannes 2005 and won the Bucharest International Short Film Festival. Her comedy play script You'll Never Walk Alone was shortlisted for BBC Northern Exposure. In 2008, Alison created the narrative and led the creative team for Toxteth TV for Capital of Culture multi-arts project 'Tales', which involved 400 teenagers at a performance in St Georges Hall.

"A brilliant day – pupils engaged throughout. Very good stimulus materials – poems performed and read. Nice variety of warm up exercises. This Year 7 class really took to the writer and produced a group poem and a poem each, published a class anthology and took it home proudly at the end of the day. Thank you" **Archbishop Blanch High School.**

Scripts for short films and plays include:

- Tales (2008)
- Flight (2005)
- You'll Never Walk Alone (2001) with Valley Youth Theatre (2004)
- Tent of Dreams (2000) Unity Theatre

Performance/workshops with Key Stages 2, 3 and 4

Marc Gee

Screenwriter. A successful play and screenwriter, Marc has had his plays performed in Liverpool and at the Edinburgh Festival. His script for Al's Lads was made into a full feature film in 2001 and premiered by BAFTA at the Cannes Film Festival and also nominated for a 2002 Liverpool Echo Entertainment Award. Marc has extensive experience as a youth worker in Merseyside and as a guest speaker in schools and colleges.

He has developed a 'script to screen' workshop: from ideas to a 10 minute script for use in schools. He also uses short films and animations as a basis for workshops aimed at KS2, which enhance general literacy skills, such as narrative comprehension and structure, as well understanding the medium of film.

"Marc's talks were amongst the very best I have witnessed in my long teaching career." Mike Clough, **West Derby School**

Novel:

- **Autumn Kill (Matador 2009)**

Scripts for feature films:

- Al's Lads (2001)
- HMS Thetis (1999)
- Bunty The Bouncer (1998)
- Freedonia (1994)

Presentations/workshops with Key Stages 2, 3 & 4

Alan Gibbons

Novelist. Winner of the Blue Peter Book Award 2000 'The book I couldn't put down' for his best selling Shadow of the Minotaur (Orion 1999). Also winner of the Angus, Leicester, Stockport, Catalyst and Salford Librarians Special Awards.

After teaching in Merseyside schools, Alan became a full-time writer seven years ago. He performs and runs writing workshops in schools, libraries, colleges, education conferences and writing festivals and has toured as far as China, New Zealand and Singapore. Alan has appeared on Blue Peter, BBC News, Radio Four, Five Live, Radio City and BBC Radio Merseyside. He has written a column in Liverpool Echo and Hong Kong Economic Times.

"Alan Gibbons is a terrific writer." Scottish Book Trust.

Publications:

- Scared To Death (Orion 2007)
- Rise of the Blood Moon (Orion 2006)
- Setting of a Cruel Sun (Orion 2006)
- The Greatest (Barrington Stoke 2006)
- Hold On (Orion 2005)
- The Night Hunger (Barrington Stoke 2003)

Educational publications:

- Teach Me To Write Poetry/Fiction/ Non- Fiction" series (Nash Pollock)

Author talks/workshops with Key Stages 2, 3 & INSET

Patrick Graham

Poet and scriptwriter. Runs successful poetry and drama workshops in schools and youth clubs. Patrick was commissioned to write a poem in conjunction with Merseyside Dance Initiative and also commissioned to write a play Who Knows! dealing with the issue of bullying.

“The workshops offered our students a chance to be creative and write freely without inhibitions. Thank you for your input –we very much enjoyed your visit and hope to see you again.” **Alsop High School**

Plays include:

- My Mother’s Children Don’t Like Me (2008)
- Hard Bullied Eggs (Toxteth Educational Trust 2003)
- By The Rivers (Playhouse 2004)

Films worked on include :

- Boogie Nights (2004 Ian Freeman)
- Revenagers Tragedy (Alex Cox 2003)
- I’m a Delinquent, Now Jail Me (Alex Cox 2003)
- One Way Love (2003)
- Murder Listening (2004)
- The Passer By (2004)
- Sitting Off (2005, Chase Johnson Lynch)

Performance/workshops with KS2, 3 and 4

Tony Green

Playwright and scriptwriter. Tony is currently a scriptwriter for Channel 4's Hollyoaks. Tony has run many creative writing courses for Liverpool University, WEA and Liverpool Everyman & Playhouse.

His plays have been produced in Liverpool, Manchester and London. Tony has an MA in Playwriting Studies (Distinction) from Birmingham University, and a PGCE+16 (Distinction) from Liverpool John Moores University. He was 5Arts Cities writer-in-residence at the Liverpool Everyman & Playhouse during 2004. He was commissioned to write two stage plays Curfew and The Collector.

“Helped the students achieve things they wouldn't normally achieve through work with a teacher.”

West Kirby Grammar School

Plays, film and radio scripts include:

- The Kindness of Strangers (Liverpool Everyman 2004)
- Run Piglet Run (2004 winner of North West Digi Shorts competition and showcased at Cannes Film Festival)
- It's A Wonderful Divorce (Radio 4 2001 and also translated into German for Westdeutscher Rundfunk, Cologne 2003)

Workshops with Key Stages 3 and 4

John Hughes

Primarily a storyteller, John's main interest is in the spoken word and how it can transfix an audience, leaving them with memories, anecdotes and stories to pass on to others. John is also an entertaining poet, writer and stand up comedian.

John runs storytelling and writing workshops for all ages and in any setting from the classroom to story walks in parks and gardens, to buses, barges and supermarkets. His stories, whether funny, scary or strange, are all told in his own lively style and often with encouragement for the audience to join in.

At a Halloween Spooky Stories session at Greasby Library, John said "Everyone was scared by my stories but we also had a lot of fun. It was great to see the reaction on the faces of the children and to have such a wonderful, vibrant atmosphere in the library with the children really enjoying themselves."

"We loved having John come and work with us. He told lots of stories as requested. Lots of humour! The children will be telling some of his stories as homework."

M. Jordan, Mount Primary School

Performance/workshops with Key Stages 1 - 4 and INSET

Nathan Jones

Poet. An innovative, dynamic and explorative performance poet who runs writing and performance poetry workshops in schools, community and arts centres, prisons and in Liverpool John Moores University. Nathan has been resident writer for over six years for Mercy Arts Collective, and has run Fiction@, a monthly multimedia poetry performance event. He was 2009 summer poet-in-residence at The Bluecoat Arts Centre and regularly performs on the poetry circuit.

In 2008, received commissions from Everyman Theatre, FACT, the Bluecoat and Tate Liverpool and produced and starred in a series of shows "Wave If You're Really There". His poetry has featured on BBC Radio 1, Radio 4 and Radio Merseyside and he headlined London Word Festival in 2009.

"His session was well planned with good use of worksheets and language. Throughout the session he constantly helped the children express their ideas, moving around the classroom, giving help/advice where required."

Halsnead Primary School

Poems in publications include :

- Mercy Magazine (Dazed And Confused, 2004)
- Poetry Pool #2 (LJMU, 2003)
- Smoke (2005 and 2008)

Workshops with Key Stages 2-4

Hilary Keating

Poet, children's author and scriptwriter. Hilary has run many writing workshops in schools, nurseries and in health and community centres. She also writes television scripts and personalised poems and has had her poetry broadcast on BBC Radio Merseyside and BBC Radio York.

Hilary was commissioned to design and produce two gallery trails for Tate Liverpool, which included educational games to stimulate interest in the artworks and inspire children to create a piece of writing. She runs training courses for Early Years practitioners and NQT's focusing on children's rights and creativity. I Can, You Can, We Can, and Yum are rhyming picture books specifically commissioned for 0-5 year olds, while Tummy Train is an interactive healthy eating frieze and song for the very young.

"Very well paced and pitched – captured the children's imagination - produced some lovely work. Brilliant." **Park Primary School, Wallasey**

Publications include :

- Yum (Wild About Words 2008)
- Tummy Train (Wild About Words 2006)
- I Can, You Can, We Can (Cities 500 Publishers 2005)
- Mr Men and Fireman Sam (Redan 1995-1997)
- Wizadora (television scripts: ITV, 1997-1998)

Workshops with Key Stages 1-4

John Malam

Author. Having trained as an archaeologist, many of John's books are about history (Egyptians, Greeks, Romans, Vikings, Tudors and World War II) but he also writes books on many other topics such as cars, aircraft and dinosaurs. He has visited schools throughout the UK, giving lively author talks on how factual books are created.

John runs team-based workshop sessions, where the children assume the various roles required in the creation and production of a book. In 2008, he was made a Reading Champion for the National Literacy Trust.

"We feel that the children benefited greatly from the experience and are now more aware of the complexities of producing information books. We would definitely invite him back to work with children here again" **M.Davies, Byley PS**

Has written nearly 200 information books for children with publishers such as Dorling Kindersley, Hodder and Kingfisher.

Publications include:

- Great Scientists: Guglielmo Marconi(Levelled Biographies 2009)
- Avoid Being A Slave in Pompeii (Book House 2008)
- The Mummy (Kingfisher 2002)
- You wouldn't want to be A Victorian Schoolchild (Hodder 2001)
- Life and Times... Queen Victoria (Hodder 1999)

Author talks/workshops Key Stages 1 - 4

Sarah MacLennan

Poet and short-storywriter. Sarah teaches creative writing for Liverpool John Moores University and The Open University. She has run freelance writing workshops for WirralMind, Merseycare Trust, Everyman Youth Theatre, The Bluecoat Arts Centre and Orrell Park Over 50's Group.

She is Reader-in-Residence for Halewood Library and judged Knowsley Libraries Creative Writing Competition 2008. In 2006, she was short-listed for the Nothing Rhymes with Poets film competition and won the Poetry in the City competition.

“Thank you for all your work on this project. I have been very impressed by your adaptability and the quality of feedback of the sessions from the groups.” **Bluecoat Arts Centre**

“The children experienced an exciting lesson where they had the opportunity to make up poems about food.” **Lister Infants**

“The teenagers all enjoyed the sessions and found it a really worthwhile experience.” **Halewood College**

Poems in publications include :

- The Doghouse Book of Ballads
- Orbis In The Red Poetry Pool Nerve The Reader

Workshops with Key Stages 1-5 and INSET

Eleanor Rees

Poet. Teaches Creative writing at Liverpool John Moores University. Poet-in-Residence at Chester Zoo Summer 2008, Eleanor also runs poetry workshops in playschemes, schools and with older people and writers groups.

Commissions include The Fragrant Project, Liverpool Botanical Collection and poems for BBC Radio 3. Received an Eric Gregory Award for Poetry 2002 and shortlisted the Forward Prize for Best First Collection 2007 and the Glen Dimplex New Writers Award 2008. She has read her poetry on BBC Radio 4, Radio 3 and Radio Merseyside.

“A brilliant day enjoyed by all. The competition was a great success and some good work was produced. Have recommended Eleanor to other schools”

Rock Ferry High School, Wirral

Publications include collections:

- Eliza and the Bear (Salt Publishing 2009)
- Andraste’s Hair (Salt Publishing 2007)
- Feeding Fire (Spout Publications 2001)

Performance/workshops with Key Stages 2, 3 and 4

Joe Standerline

Dramatist and poet. An experienced workshop facilitator who works with schools, excluded young people, and community groups. He achieved the MA in Screenwriting (with Distinction) at Liverpool John Moores University (2004). He is a founder member of Splinter Active Theatre Company, which has a repertoire of over 50 original productions. He successfully adapts novels into stage plays and his adaptation of Stone Cold has been adopted as a set text for GCSE Drama by the Welsh Exam Board.

Joe is also a professional actor and has appeared in numerous productions for stage and television, including Shameless, Clocking Off and Hollyoaks. He played Tin Man in the 2008 Lowry Production of the Wizard of Oz alongside Judy Garland's daughter, Lorna Luft. Joe writes pantomime scripts, produced with all-star casts and he is a part time drama teacher at the SLP Musical Theatre School in Leeds.

"Joe delivered an excellent workshop and inspired some wonderful writing." **Fazakerley High School**

Publications include :

- Exchanges (2005 OUP)

and play adaptations of Robert Swindells' novels

- Brother in the Land (Oxford University Press 2004)
- Daz 4 Zoe (Heinemann 2000)
- Room 13 (Heinemann 1999)
- Stone Cold (Stanley Thornes 1993)

Workshops with Key Stages 2-4

Peter Street

Poet. Performs wherever people will listen to him: *“Like a wandering medieval minstrel, he’s bringing his art to the people.”* Ernest Beck, Wall Street Journal. He has been visiting schools since 1987 and major projects include writers residencies for the Poetry Society (Wigan Fish n’ Chips), Hindley Y.O.I. and HMP Manchester, and has featured on BBC Radio Five Live, GMR, BBC World Service and ITV television.

A qualified Youth Worker, Peter has worked as Writer-in-residence with the International Youth Camp, England, and has been the Early Years Consultant for Youth Arts in Wigan Project. Peter also works with disability groups and led workshops with adults to create a booklet *“Perceptions of Disability”*, which was also performed at Wigan Theatre.

“Peter writes what he experiences and makes poetry out of what he hears, feels ... and what he feels is akin to Owen’s pity – indignation tempered by pity. Peter Street’s poems are always intensely human and humane” **Matt Simpson**

Publications:

- Thumbing Form Lipik To Pakrac (Waterloo Press 2009)
- Tony Bevan and Peter Street (Turnpike Gallery 2009)
- Trees Will Be Trees (Shoestring Press 2001)
- Still Standing (Towpath 1998)
- Out Of The Fire (Spike 1993)

Performance/workshops with Key Stages 2, 3 and 4

Levi Tafari

Poet. Levi has collaborated extensively with the British Council in many parts of Europe and the Far East in flagship education and arts projects such as *Britlit* and *Inclusion and Diversity in Education (INDIE)* and is at present delivering creative writing and communication workshops to young people and sharing his unique and vibrant poetry in 50 European schools.

Levi has performed in major venues in London, Manchester, Edinburgh, Hay-on-Wye, and in the Caribbean as well as his in his native Liverpool. TV appearances include 'Black on Black' (Channel 4), 'Blue Peter' and 'Grange Hill' (BBC). He was also Writer-in-residence at Charles University Prague and with the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra.

"From the moment Levi began working with the children it became apparent that the experience would be a memorable one. He engaged their interest in poetry and had them becoming 'poets' very quickly." Little Sutton C.E. Primary.

Publications include:

- From The Page To The Stage (Headland 2006)
- Dub poetry (Merseyside Minibooks 1987, 1988, 2001)
- Rhyme Don't Pay (Headland 1993)

and poems in anthologies

- Life Doesn't Frighten Me at All (Heinemann 1989)
- The New British Poetry (Paladin 1988)
- Dub Poetry (Michael Schwinn 1987)
- News For Babylon (Chatto & Windus 1984)

Performance/workshops with Key Stages 1 - 4

Taffy Thomas M.B.E.

Storyteller. With over 30 years experience, Taffy entertains and delights audiences of all ages from the local school hall to the Albert Hall with his diverse and rich stock of stories and riddles.

Taffy's philosophy is that "Everybody's got one story to tell, and that's their own".

Through his interactive skill-sharing workshops, each participant will be encouraged to find the storyteller within themselves, and will be amazed to find how memory and narrative skills can be readily accessed.

"Few people in the artistic world reach so many individuals on such a deep level as does Taffy Thomas. Not only is he an English treasure, he is a world treasure."

David Holt, US Grammy Award winner

"Taffy Thomas is a story teller in the true tradition... he conveys the vitality and enthusiasm for the spoken word, that make story telling such a compelling entertainment."

Anne Brown, BBC Midlands.

Publications include:

- **Telling Tales: Storytelling as Emotional Literacy (EPS 2007)**
- **The Linking of the Chain (Tales in Trust 2001)**
- **Farmer Merryweather's Cow (Lyngham House 1999)**

Performances/workshops Key Stages 1 - 4 and INSET

Angela Topping

Poet and drama facilitator. Experienced writer and teacher who believes in active learning, leading workshops with all ages from nursery to elders, building confidence in their ability to write, tell stories and make books. Widely published, she has performed and been poet-in-residence in a wide range of venues such as schools, libraries, bookshops and hospices.

Angela writes articles for journals and student guides and is a senior moderator/coursework advisor for Advance Level English Language and Literature. She is a qualified secondary school teacher, and was Head of Literacy and Oracy at Upton Hall School. Her poetry is published by Macmillan, OUP, Hodder, Collins and Wayland in over 45 anthologies, and features in poetry magazines/journals such as *London Magazine*, *Critical Survey*, *Smoke* and *The Reader*. She has appeared on British Satellite Broadcast TV and on BBC Radio.

Publications include:

- The Way We Came (Bluechrome 2007)
- Fiddle: New and Selected Poems (Stride 1999)
- Focus on *The Bloody Chamber and Other Stories* by Angela Carter (Greenwich Exchange 2009)
- Focus on *Spies* by Michael Frayn (Greenwich Exchange 2008)

and poems in anthologies

- Troubles Swapped for Something Fresh (Salt 2009)
- Read Me Out Loud (Macmillan 2007)
- The Poetry Store (Hodder 2005)

Performance/workshops KS1 - 4

Curtis Watt a.k.a. C-Zero

Liverpool based performance poet and MC who combines his poetry with a sense of urgency and energy concerning the everyday issues of contemporary life. He has toured in South Africa, Germany, former Czech Republic and USA.

His poems 'The Death of a Bully' and 'My Cat Just Saw a Ghost' feature in Michael Rosen's *A-Z of the Best Children's Poems*, published by Puffin Books. His work is part of the *Freedom and Enslavement Wall* of the International Slavery Museum.

Rhythm and riddles feature strongly in his performances, and Curtis uses an African djembe drum to provide an effective accompaniment to his verse. Workshop participants are encouraged to join in with his performances, as well as being inspired to produce their own poems, raps and songs.

"Excellent material produced for a Poetry Slam performance. Pupils given great confidence to perform in front of their peers." **A. Williams, Cowley Language College**

Film and tv credits for writing and performing song/rap in:

- Who put the beat in Merseybeat and
- STUSSH 2, (Granada TV)
- Hearts & Minds (C4)

and as an actor playing

- Simon in The League of Gentleman (BBC) and
- Jonny Boateng in Liverpool 1 (ITV).

Performance/ workshops with Key Stages 2,3 & 4

Dave Ward

Poet and short story writer. Dave is an experienced writing workshop leader since 1971, who devised board games as a way to encourage fun in creative writing. Co-founder of The Windows Project and Co-ordinator since 1976.

Dave has his poems widely published in over 100 anthologies and his poetry has been broadcast on BBC Radio 1, Radio 2, Radio 4, Radio Merseyside and BBC School Radio.

“Dave was an inspiration to the students – they have begun writing a piece of original writing for their GCSE in English which is extremely helpful. It was a real privilege to have Dave at the school – some students were in awe and inspired by his writing” **Belinda Ludlow, The Blue Coat School**

Publications include:

- On the Edge of Rain (Headland 2008)
- Tracts (Headland 1996)
- Candy and Jazz (OUP 1994)
- Jambo (Impact Books 1993)

poems in anthologies includes

- Read me At School (Macmillan 2009)
- You Have Been Warned (Oxford 2008)
- Read Me Out Loud (Macmillan 2007)
- The Poetry Store (Hodder 2005)
- Gary Lineker Books of Favourite Football Stories (Macmillan 1997 and 1998).

Performance/workshops with Key Stages 1 - 4 and INSET

Glyn Wright

Poet. Glyn is an award-winning poet who has performed throughout Britain and has been a Writer-in-Residence for Aldeburgh Poetry Festival. His work is featured in GCSE coursebook Three Contemporary Poets.

Workshops are based on rhythm, drama and narrative and aim to encourage quality descriptive writing through a variety of themes. A Poetry Book Society Choice, shortlisted for the T.S. Eliot Prize and winner of the Aldeburgh Poetry Festival Prize and the Liverpool Post & Echo New Writing Award.

“Finished products were excellent and the children were inspired. Glyn has high expectations of even the less able pupils” **Cowley Language School, St Helens**

Publications include:

- Shindig (Bloodaxe 1997)
- Could Have Been Funny (Spike 1995)

Poems in collections include :

- Three Contemporary Poets (Hodder & Stoughton 1997)

and magazines

- Stand, Poetry Nottingham and Smiths Knoll

Performance/workshops with Key Stages 2, 3 and 4