



— **BASSETLAW** —
DISTRICT COUNCIL
NORTH NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

Bassetlaw District Council Short Story Competition has grown to Three Writing Competitions and a Three Day Literary Festival!

This year marks an exciting evolution in what was formerly the Bassetlaw Short Story Competition. Renamed the **North Notts Writing Competition** (NNWC), it is bigger and better than ever, with more categories and more prizes. The three categories (short story, poetry and a children's category) afford an opportunity for genres of writers and poets to be involved! Cash prizes range from £25 to £300 for first prize.

The 2019 theme is **Chesterfield Canal and North Notts Industrial Heritage** for the Short Story and Poetry categories. For the Children's category, the theme is **Inventions** and submissions are welcome from anywhere in the UK provided entries have a link to this year's theme. Judges will look for evidence of a North Notts connection as part of their scoring criteria. **All submissions must be previously unpublished. Entries can be made from June 1st and closing date is 31st July.**

To complement the writing competition, 2019 sees the first North Notts Lit Fest presented by Bassetlaw District Council, North Notts Business Improvement District and Barristers Book Chamber. From Friday 13th September 2019 to Sunday 15th September 2019, the festival will play host to Nottinghamshire's top writing talent including International bestselling crime author Stephen Booth, BAFTA award winning writer and TV producer Henry Normal (*The Royal Family, Gavin and Stacey, Red Dwarf*), writer and historian Emily Brand, powerhouse poet Paul Cookson, photojournalist and author Sally Outram, North Notts Literary Ambassador Liz Carney-Marsh, publisher Angela Meads and the fabulous Talegate Theatre Productions to name just a few of the people taking part.

The festival not only showcase the talent of the literary community, the council is pleased to be working in partnership with some of Retford's foremost literary related businesses and organisations including Inspire Libraries, Bookworm, The Time Machine, Kenny Roach Designs, The Herbalist, The Hub and others. From performances, to workshops, book signings, guided literary walks, posh picnics, fancy dress and more, this community literary festival promises to have something for everyone.

Cllr Jo White, Deputy Leader said 'Following the success of the Short Story Competition over the last three years, we really felt it was time to raise our ambitions and put North Notts on the literary map. I hope the theme of Chesterfield Canal and North Notts Industrial Heritage will inspire the imagination of budding authors; from the romance of steering a canal boar and walking beautiful towpaths to capturing the raw history of mining, or power stations, the theme offers such a broad spectrum'.

For more information on the competition and the festival go to www.nnlif.org.uk. Or follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram @nnlitfest for the latest updates of festival appearances and events.