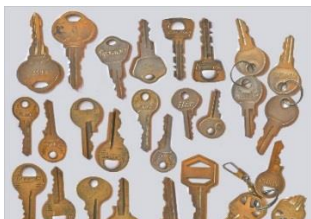




Lost and found: books and their readers

18 November, 10:30-11:30, MK Gallery Project Space

Dr Shaf Towheed takes us on an adventure back in time explaining how readers of the past are linked to readers of today. Venture out to uncover lost books on a “treasure trail” reading journey the whole family can take together.



Creative writing at the Gallery

18 November, 11:30-12:15, MK Gallery Project Space

A relaxed, no-pressure session for trying your hand at creative writing led by Dr Jane Yeh. We'll use artworks in the MK Gallery as inspiration for short writing exercises and 'freewriting'. Choose to write fiction, poetry, or in no particular form. Open to participants at any level; just bring some paper, a pen and your imagination.



Migrant families enacting belonging

18 November, 15:30-16:00, MK Gallery Project Space

Dr Umut Erel's research focuses on care and citizenship among migrant mothers and their co-resident children. In this talk and video piece migrant families show us the meaning of enforced loss and newly found “homes”.



At the Heart of the Nation

18 November, 16:15-17:45, Milton Keynes Theatre

Booking required via <https://beinghumanfestival.org/event/at-the-heart-of-the-nation/>

Starting with a **drinks reception**, and followed by a Q&A and informal conversation, Dr Maya Parmar showcases the influence of South Asians in Britain. Experience the crucial role they play in the formation of Britain through photography and discussion, drawing belated attention to the wide-ranging contributions Indians have long made to Britain's cultural, economic, intellectual, political and social life.



Take a walk with a famous poet

18 November, 16:15-16:45, MK Gallery Project Space

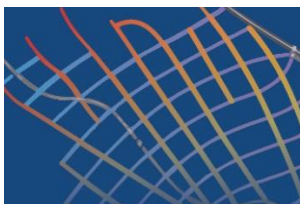
Join Professor Nicola Watson to find out more about Jane Austen's favourite poet William Cowper and why he was living in Olney in Milton Keynes. Discover more about his famous poem *The Task* and learn why admirers from all across the world came to walk in Cowper's footsteps. Follow William Cowper's favourite walk on the map and collect up pieces of his lost masterpiece as you go.



Writing Milton Keynes

18 November, 18:30-19:00, MK Gallery Project Space

Join novelist and critic Ben Masters for a journey through the Milton Keynes of the imagination. Drawing on his experiences of writing about the town in his fiction and for *The Guardian*, as well as the responses of other writers from across the decades, he'll be exploring how Milton Keynes remains enigmatic no matter how well we think we know it.



Choral premiere: A different kind of urban

23 November, 13:00-14:00, at The Open University Campus, Walton Hall

The Open University opens the doors to its Walton Hall campus for a performance by The Open University Choir of the world premiere of *A different kind of urban*, the piece it has commissioned for Milton Keynes' 50th birthday. Milton Keynes author Judi Moore's lyrics celebrate the new town, its history, geography, diversity and culture. Her text is set to music by composer and Open University Associate Lecturer in Music Liz Lane, whose *Antiphonary* for brass and percussion is also included in the concert.

Admission to the concert is free and open to all – **booking required via** <https://beinghumanfestival.org/event/choral-premiere-a-different-kind-of-urban/>



OFF THE GRID:

Lost and Found in Milton Keynes

18 November | MK Gallery and MK Theatre:

900 Midsummer Boulevard, Milton Keynes, MK9 3QA



The Open University, in partnership with Milton Keynes Gallery and Milton Keynes Theatre.

A day of family activities located in the heart of the city - it's not just concrete cows and roundabouts: Milton Keynes has a rich cultural history waiting to be rediscovered.

In the city's 50th anniversary year, '**Off the Grid: Lost and Found in Milton Keynes**' brings together leading Open University Arts & Social Sciences researchers to uncover and share its cultural life, including a literary treasure hunt, writing workshop, film, photographs, theatre, music, literary walking tours, and public talks.

Part of the Being Human festival 2017

17-25 November 2017 | beinghumanfestival.org | @BeingHumanFest



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