



# the French House Party experience

## Creative Writing Course

Course Date: 23rd–27th June 2010



Course Tutor: Sarah Hymas

Sarah is a poet, a puppeteer and short story writer. Her short story collection, *Closet Collection*, was published by Businesslike in 1994, and since then her writing has appeared in numerous publications.

From 2004–2006 she was the inaugural poet in residence for Calderdale Libraries, contracted to promote poetry reading throughout the borough, and worked with two visual artists in creating an art book, *Reading is Believing*. Before that, for five years, she was a member of a company of writers, 3dV, who wrote collaborative performance texts they toured around the North West.

Currently she works for Litfest in Lancaster, as the editor of Flax Books. She delivers professional development sessions for writers throughout the region, both on a one-to-one basis and for groups.

She has worked as a creative writing tutor for the past ten years. She also collaborates with a musician, as Hymas & Lewis, to create sonic art which they perform all over the north-west of England. She has written the libretto for an improvised opera, 'Flocking' and writes lyrics for the Afro-funk band 'DC Dansette' and other singers.

This year she has been devising, scripting and performing puppet shows for children, based on classic fairytales.

Day	Time	Activity
Wednesday	4 pm onwards	Arrival, tea and cakes. Settling in
	7 pm onwards	Drinks. French House Party Co-ordinator gives welcome talk
	8 pm	Dinner
Thursday	From 8.30 am	Breakfast
	10.00 am – 1.00	<b>Writing workshop 1</b> Writing games and exercises to explore new techniques and unleash your imagination will take place daily. We will read as well as write, talk, think and feedback on each other's work. Informality and respect are the tenets of each workshop. The sessions are suitable for anyone with a willingness to experiment and a desire to write, from the beginner to published writers
	1.00 pm – 2.00	Lunch
	2.00 pm – 4.30	One-to-one creative writing tutorials If you have some work you would like discuss with Sarah in the tutorial then please bring either two poems with you or 750 words of prose. Alternatively, she is happy to discuss the business side of being a writer: your ambitions, target publications etc. The times of the tutorials will be allocated in the first session. Of course you only need to take the opportunity if you wish
	4.30 pm	Coffee/tea and cakes at St Raymond
	6.00 pm	In-house tasting of selected local wines
Friday	Evening	Eating out at a restaurant
	From 8.30 am	Breakfast
	10.00 am – 1.00	<b>Writing workshop 2</b>
	1.00 pm – 2.00	Lunch
	2.00 pm – 4.00	One-to-one creative writing tutorials
	4.00 pm – 4.15	Depart for Carcassonne (optional outing)
	7.00 pm	Leave Carcassonne for return home
	8.30 pm	Dinner at home
Saturday	From 8.30 am	Breakfast
	10.00 am – 1.00	<b>Writing workshop 3</b>
	1.00 pm – 2.00	Lunch
	3.30 pm	Local wine-tasting outing to vineyard (optional)
	5.30 pm	Coffee/tea and cakes at St Raymond
	6.00 pm – 6.30	Readaround/performance
Sunday	8.00 pm	Finale dinner
	From 8.30 am	Breakfast
	9.30 am – 12.00	<b>Writing workshop 4</b>
	12.00 noon	Lunch
	1.30 pm – 2.30	Departures

Our website offers more details or call us to discuss your requirements

[www.frenchhouseparty.co.uk](http://www.frenchhouseparty.co.uk) • [www.experiencetheexperience.co.uk](http://www.experiencetheexperience.co.uk) • Tel: 01299 896819 or 07900 322791