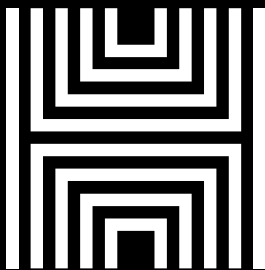


# HULL NOIR

crime  
fiction  
festival



**HULL  
2017**  
UK  
City  
of  
Culture

**12-19  
November  
2017**

# HULL NOIR 2017

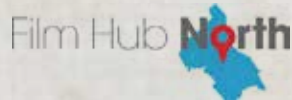
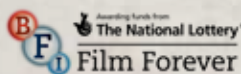
## WELCOME TO HULL NOIR

We're proud to welcome visitors to Hull Noir 2017, a festival celebrating the best of British and international crime fiction. As part of TELL THE WORLD, the fourth season of this year's UK City of Culture celebrations, we're pleased to play host to Iceland Noir on their bi-annual travels from the festival's home, Hull's twin city of Reykjavik.

From the outset, our aim was to create a festival that would showcase the current crop of writers working in the city and cast a spotlight on Hull's crime fiction heritage, giving overdue recognition to Get Carter author and pioneer of British noir, Ted Lewis. Lewis studied, came of age, and used the city as a backdrop for his writing. For all the dark subject matter in the 10 author panels over two days, we hope the festival is a place to renew old friendships, forge new connections, and take a good look at the themes of contemporary crime fiction with a particularly Hull perspective.

We're grateful to **Lilja Sigurðardóttir** and **Karen Sullivan** at **Orenda Books** for their generosity in sharing **SNARE**, Lilja's first novel to be translated into English, as the festival read; to our partners at **Hull Independent Cinema** with whom we'll be presenting a short season of **Ted Lewis** related crime films including gangster classic **GET CARTER (1971)**; and to **E52 Theatre Company** who'll be premiering a script-in-hand reading of a new production based on **David Mark's** debut novel, **DARK WINTER**.

Please explore the programme and check out the website to discover more about the writers and events. **Hull Noir** is a chance to get closer to the action. **It'd be a crime to miss it!**



[hull2017.co.uk/hullnoir](http://hull2017.co.uk/hullnoir)

## CONTENTS

<b>Festival Panels</b>	<b>18/19 November</b>	
Sleeping with the Fishes	- 18 November	4
Craphouse to Powerhouse	- 18 November	5
Into the Darkness	- 18 November	6
Get Carter	- 18 November	7
Martina Cole	- 18 November	8
Getting Away with Murder	- 19 November	9
Behind Bars	- 19 November	10
Off the Beaten Track	- 19 November	11
Brawlers and Bastards	- 19 November	12
A Year in the Crime Writing Life	- 19 November	13
<b>Hull Noir Festival Read</b>		
Snare by Lilja Sigurðardóttir		14
Festival Read - Book Groups		15
<b>Noir in the bar - Minerva</b>	<b>- 12 November</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Hull Noir Film Season - Hull Independent Cinema</b>		<b>17</b>
Point Blank	- 13 November	18
Get Carter	- 15 November	19
Dead Man's Shoes	- 16 November	20
<b>The Darker Side of Hull:</b>		
A murder walk with Mike Covell	- 14 November	21
<b>Book Launch Event at Kardomah 94</b>	<b>- 17 November</b>	
Getting Carter:		
Ted Lewis and the Birth of Brit Noir		22
Memory of Water		23
<b>Dark Winter - Ensemble 52</b>		
Script-in-hand reading	- 18 November	24-25
<b>Helen Cadbury</b>	-	26-27
<b>Hull Noir - at a glance</b>	-	28-29
<b>Booking information</b>	-	31



HULL NOIR CRIME FICTION FESTIVAL WEEKEND: 18 November

Saturday Panels: The Britannia Royal Hotel, Hull.

10.00am – 11.00am

**Sleeping with the Fishes:** Hull vs Iceland

David Mark, Lilja Sigurðardóttir and Quentin Bates, chaired – or refereed if necessary – by Nick Quantrill. The panel look at the style, influence and distinctions and conflicts of Hull and Iceland as locations and inspirations for crime writing.



David Mark



Lilja Sigurðardóttir



Quentin Bates



Nick Quantrill



Danielle Ramsay



Luca Veste



Jay Stringer



Paul Finch

11.30am – 12.30pm

**Craphouse to Powerhouse:** The North, crime fiction and post-Brexit blues

Danielle Ramsay, Jay Stringer, Luca Veste and Paul Finch discuss post-industrial crime fiction in the North and how the M62 draws a virtual line through the national crime fiction psyche.



1.30pm - 2.30pm

**Into the Darkness:** the new noir

As eras come and go and each generation defines itself by the writing that came before. **Jake Arnott**, **Emma Flint**, **Joseph Knox** and **Cathi Unsworth** look at the challenges of writing contemporary noir fiction and the power of historical setting.



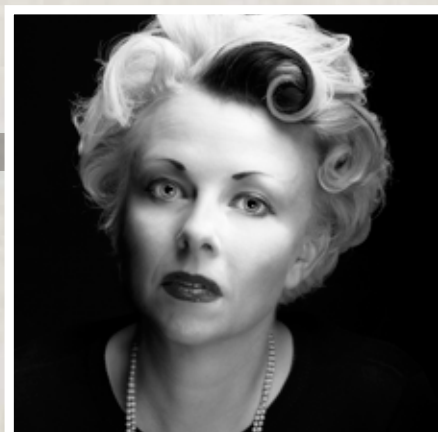
Jake Arnott



Emma Flint



Joseph Knox



Cathi Unsworth



Howard Linskey



Russel McLean



Sean O'Brien



Andrew Spicer



Nick Triplow

3.30pm - 4.30pm

**Get Carter:** Ted Lewis and the hard-boiling of British crime fiction

The panel, **Howard Linskey**, **Nick Triplow**, **Sean O'Brien**, **Andrew Spicer** and **Russel McLean** discuss the influences of American hardboiled writing in British crime fiction, and the part Ted Lewis played in establishing an authentic British tradition.



7.00pm – 8.00pm

**Martina Cole:** a crime writing silver jubilee

The most borrowed author in prison libraries; the most shoplifted from British bookshops: best-selling Queen of British crime fiction, **Martina Cole**, celebrates the 25th anniversary of the publication of her first novel, **Dangerous Lady**, in the company of critic, author and crime fiction aficionado, **Barry Forshaw**.



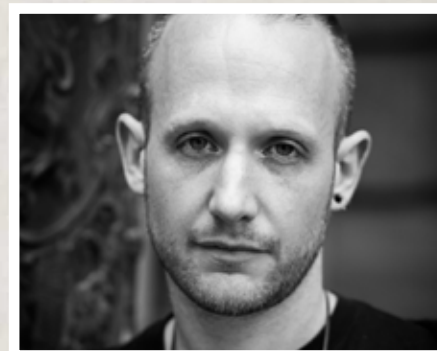
Martina Cole



Barry Forshaw



Abir Mukherjee



Matt Wesolowski



Rachel Rhys



Ayo Onatade

HULL NOIR CRIME FICTION FESTIVAL WEEKEND: 19 November

**Sunday Panels: The Britannia Royal Hotel, Hull.**

10.00am – 11.00am

**Getting Away With Murder:** golden age vs digital age

From wire messages, telegrams and Hansom cabs to new tech, dark web and the emergence of new formats, **Abir Mukherjee**, **Rachel Rhys** and **Matt Wesolowski** discuss the influence of technologies on crime writing and publishing with **Ayo Onatade**.



11.30am – 12.30pm

**Behind Bars:** freedom, oppression and control

With a background of Hull's historical links to the slave trade abolitionist William Wilberforce and traditions of resistance, **Eva Dolan**, **Kati Hiekkapelto**, **Stav Sherez** and **William Ryan** explore ways in which crime fiction deals with characters living under oppression or imprisoned by circumstance.



Eva Dolan



Kati Hiekkapelto



Stav Sherez



William Ryan



Daniel Pembrey



David Young



Antti Tuomainen



Sarah Ward



Jacky Collins

1.00pm – 2.00pm

**Off The Beaten Track:** exploring roads less taken

**Daniel Pembrey**, **Antti Tuomainen**, **Sarah Ward** and **David Young** discuss the unfashionable and hitherto undiscovered landscapes, languages and settings for crime writing with **Jacky Collins**, and cast fresh light on where new territories for writing might be found.



2.30pm - 3.30pm

**Brawlers and Bastards:** the rise of the unlikeable protagonist

From Bill Sikes through Jack Carter and beyond, **Steph Broadribb**, **Mick Herron**, **Harry Brett** and **Craig Robertson** look at the ways in which crime authors redeem the irredeemable and create antiheroes from the most unlikeable protagonists.



Steph Broadribb



Mick Herron



Harry Brett



Craig Robertson



Mark Billingham



John Connolly



Jake Kerridge

4.00pm - 5.00pm

**A Year in the Crime Writing Life:** Mark Billingham and John Connolly with Jake Kerridge

Bringing the festival to a close, **Mark Billingham** and **John Connolly** take a look at their writing years with **Daily Telegraph crime fiction critic, Jake Kerridge**. The best, the worst; a year to remember, one to forget; the tears, tantrums and triumphs of a crime writing life.



**SNARE** by Lilja Sigurðardóttir

An introduction by Karen Sullivan, Orenda Books

The appetite for Icelandic crime fiction shows no signs of abating, and now internationally bestselling author, Lilja Sigurðardóttir, joins the likes of Ragnar Jonasson, Arnaldur Indridason and Yrsa Sigurðardóttir, with her debut thriller Snare, the first in the Reykjavík Noir series. Translated by crime writer Quentin Bates, Lilja has written an up-to-the-minute, pacy thriller with an unforgettable female protagonist. The series has been optioned for TV by 66 Degrees North/Palomar Pictures in Hollywood, so you can expect to see it on your screens sometime soon.

After a messy divorce, attractive young mother Sonja is struggling to provide for herself and win sole custody of her son. With her back to the wall, she resorts to smuggling cocaine into Iceland, and finds herself caught up in a ruthless criminal world. As she desperately looks for a way out of trouble, she must pit her wits against her nemesis, Bragi, a customs officer, whose years of experience frustrate her new and evermore daring strategies. Things become even more complicated by the fact that Sonja is in a relationship with a woman, Agla. Once a high-level bank executive, Agla is currently being prosecuted in the aftermath of the Icelandic financial crash.

Set in a Reykjavík still covered in the dust of the Eyjafjallajökull volcanic eruption, and with a nail-bitingly fast-paced and chilling plot and intriguing characters, Snare is an outstandingly original and sexy Nordic crime thriller, from one of the most exciting new names in crime fiction.



Lilja Sigurðardóttir

**Book Groups**

Nick Quantrill and Nick Triplow will be taking the festival read on the road to book groups across the East Riding, introducing new readers to a compelling new voice in crime fiction.

<b>Fudge Book Group</b>	- 15 October	5-6.30pm
<b>Swanland Library</b>	- 7 November	7-8pm
<b>North Ferriby Library I</b>	- 9 November	5-6pm
<b>Hull Central Library Crime Group</b>	- 14 November	2-3pm
<b>North Ferriby Library II</b>	- 16 November	6-7pm

To join the conversation, email [hullnoir@outlook.com](mailto:hullnoir@outlook.com)





Sunday 12th November

7pm. Minerva, Nelson Street, Hull. Entry Free.

An informal one-off event to launch Hull Noir week. An evening of crime fiction and noir readings from a mix of new and established writers, readers and invited guests. Started in Philadelphia, in 2008, by Peter Rosovsky, the Noir at the Bar concept was taken to St. Louis by the writers, Jedidiah Ayres and Scott Phillips, and has since spread across the U.S. Described by Scottish crime novelist Russel McLean as being like “attending an intimate gig featuring brief sets by your favourite bands”. There are none of the formal trappings of traditional literary events, simply a collection of readers and writers, bringing their unique voices to the microphone to read short extracts from books and stories with a crime flavour that mean something to them.

For details of readers, see [hull2017.co.uk/hullnoir](http://hull2017.co.uk/hullnoir)



In partnership with Hull Noir and supported by Hull UK City of Culture 2017, Hull Independent Cinema presents a short season of exceptional crime films related to iconic crime fiction writer and Hull Art School alumni, Ted Lewis.

The gangster classic GET CARTER (1971) is screened in a mini-series with John Boorman's influential POINT BLANK (1967), based on Donald Westlake's hardboiled thriller, The Hunter; and Shane Meadows' uncompromising small town revenge story, DEAD MAN'S SHOES (2004).

All tickets £7.00/£6.00 concessions. To book tickets, contact Hull Box Office:

[www.hullboxoffice.com/brands/hull-noir-ted-lewis-film-season](http://www.hullboxoffice.com/brands/hull-noir-ted-lewis-film-season)





Monday 13 November, 7.30pm

Dir. John Boorman, starring Lee Marvin and Angie Dickinson

As a three nights a week cinema obsessive, Ted Lewis had sought a route into film making. At Hull School of Arts and Crafts Lewis regularly skipped classes to take in a morning showing at the Regal before nipping across the road to the Cecil for a matinee.

From an early age, his heroes were the actors with a ruthless streak, chief among these was Lee Marvin. Hardly surprising, then, that when Marvin played Walker in Point Blank, adapted from hardboiled revenge novel, The Hunter, by Donald Westlake (writing as Richard Stark) Lewis was first in line and loved it.

Released in the UK cinemas in 1968, Lewis, by then working as animation clean up supervisor on the Beatles' Yellow Submarine, was collecting ideas for a story, based on characters he'd met in the pubs and clubs of Soho. There's no doubt Point Blank was an influence on the writing Lewis embarked upon in the next few months. In Jack Carter, he created a character who would, to quote Westlake, 'pound through one book and goodbye'.



Wednesday 15 November, 7.30pm

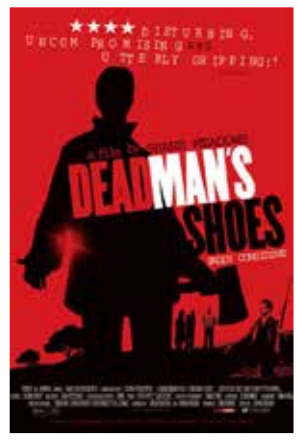
Dir. Mike Hodges, starring Michael Caine

Writing in the Chicago Sun Times in 1971, film critic, Roger Ebert, observed that Michael Caine had been 'mucking about' in a series of potboilers which were 'undermining his acting reputation'. 'Get Carter,' he wrote, showed him as 'sure, fine and vicious'. The film exhibited a 'feel for the underbelly of society, like the good American detective novelists have always had.' Much of this was down to the source material. Lewis's 1970 novel, Jack's Return Home, had been optioned before it hit the bookshop shelves.

When Get Carter was released in March 1971, reviewers acknowledged the power of Caine's performance and the quality of Hodges's script and direction, though many found the film's amoral tone troubling. To coincide with the release, Lewis's novel was republished as Carter and later, Get Carter.

In October 2004, Total Film Magazine voted Get Carter the greatest British film of all time. Heading a list which included A Matter of Life and Death and The Third Man, it was keeping high company.





Thursday 16 November, 7.30pm

Dir. Shane Meadows, starring Paddy Considine, Gary Stretch, Toby Kebbell

Whether by conscious design, or as a result of becoming ingrained in the DNA of British film and fiction, the passing years have seen plenty of examples drawn from, or influenced by, Get Carter and Lewis's nihilistic creation of British noir characters.

Shane Meadows' Dead Man's Shoes (2004), co-written by Meadows, Paddy

Considine and Paul Fraser with a stunning performance from Considine in the lead role, is an unsettling take on the gritty revenge thriller which reinvigorates Lewis's blueprint.

Tuesday 14 November - 7.30pm

This audio/visual/digital walking tour takes in some of the most infamous criminal activities in the history of Hull; hear about the infamous Silver Hatchet Gang; true crimes, criminals, and some of the most brutal murders that the city has ever seen. See the city as it was in years gone by using state of the art HD images.

Presented by writer and historian, Mike Covell, author of The Caughey Street Murder, The Silver Hatchet Gang, The Tragic Tale of William Papper and The Marfleet Murder Mystery.

Follow Amazing Hull Tours:

<https://www.facebook.com/amazinghulltours/>

Mike Covell

<https://www.facebook.com/mike.covell.33>

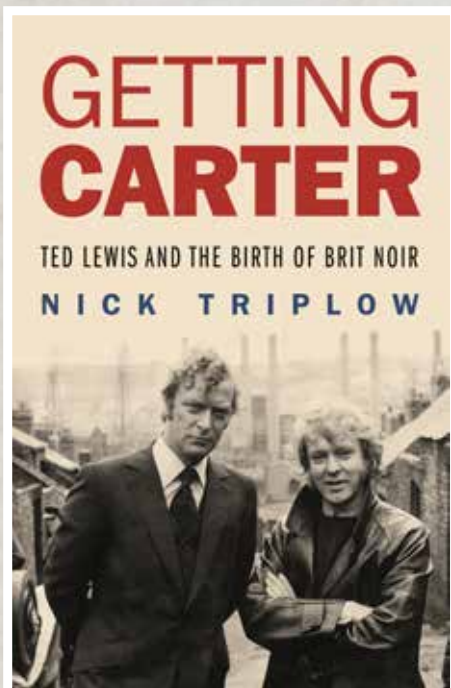
@MikeCovell

Tickets - £4. Meet at the Britannia Royal Hotel entrance, 7.30pm.



Mike Covell





Getting Carter: Ted Lewis and the Birth of Brit Noir

Friday 17 November – 7pm, Kardomah 94

The festival weekend opens with an informal Friday evening event.

The launch of Nick Triplow's long awaited biography of Ted Lewis, *Getting Carter: Ted Lewis and the Birth of Brit Noir*. Nick will be in conversation with novelist, Cathi Unsworth, talking about Lewis, his life and work, and continued influence on crime writing.

Entry is free, but booking essential. Please contact: [hullnoir@outlook.com](mailto:hullnoir@outlook.com)

Friday 17 November, Kardomah 94

Premiere of a short form moving image work by Gillian Hobson in collaboration with Nick Triplow.



Gillian Hobson

In Summer 2015, artist Gillian Hobson and writer Nick Triplow, embarked on a series of walks along a remote stretch of the Lincolnshire coastline in an attempt to trace the mental and physical dislocations which impacted on Ted Lewis's final novel, the psychological noir, *GBH*.

Fragments of photography, moving image, writing and conversation recorded during these visits capture the resonances of this extraordinary place.

The short film, *Memory of Water*, is part documentation, part meditation, part testimony. Employing image, sound and duration to explore the conscious/unconscious, real/imagined, homely/unhomely, this elegiac work reveals a near hallucinogenic reality where the inner and outer worlds of maker and viewer collide.





Ensemble 52 present DARK WINTER at KARDOMAH 94

Saturday 18 November – 8.30pm

**DARK WINTER:** By David Mark

Adapted By **Richard Vergette** and **Nick Lane**

Directed by **Andrew Pearson**

An ex-trawlerman from East Hull. An adopted teenager from Hessle. An arsonist from Orchard Park. All unknown to one another. All apparently unconnected victims of brutal murders.

But Detective Sergeant Aector McAvoy reckons there's a link. Trouble is, when you blow the whistle on your boss, however corrupt, no one listens to a grass.

They should.

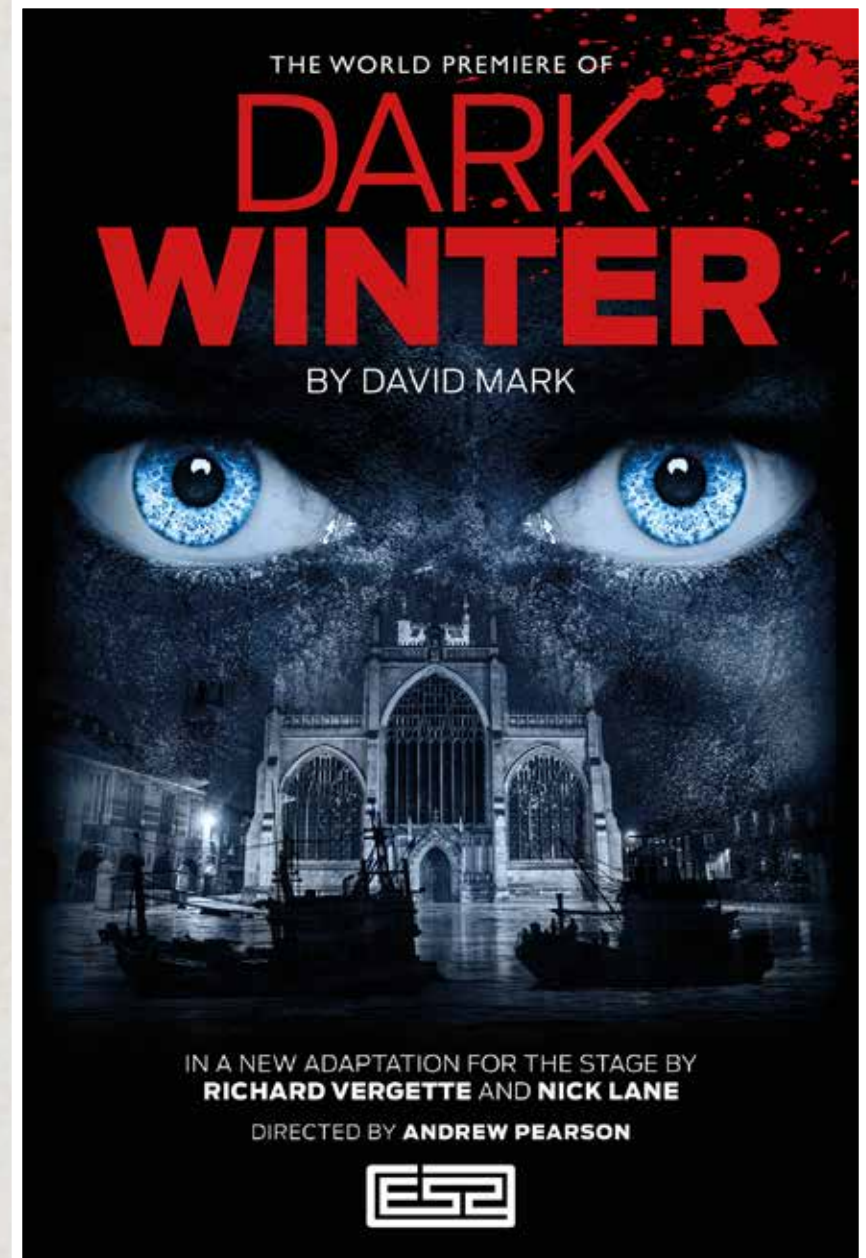
Because if they don't, the list of victims will only get longer. And, for McAvoy at least, much, much closer to home...

Based on the thrilling Hull-set crime novel by bestselling author David Mark, Ensemble 52 brings Aector McAvoy's first case to the stage in a stunning adaptation by award winning writers Richard Vergette (*Dancing Through the Shadows, As We Forgive Them*) and Nick Lane (*The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde, My Favourite Summer*), directed by Andrew Pearson (*A Steady Rain, Great Expectations*).

Dark Winter descends

The book-in-hand reading will be the first opportunity to hear the new script before a full production is staged at **Hull Truck Theatre** in **March 2018**.

Tickets **£5** available from **[hull2017.co.uk](http://hull2017.co.uk)**





The first time I met Helen was in a tent at a small arts festival on the outskirts of Leeds. In some respects it was standard procedure, quickly bonding and finding some common ground before going on stage as part of a panel of writers. But as the sun started to set, we realised there was no lighting available, so Helen set about politely demanding audience members with bicycle lights handed them over so we could continue. I knew at that point I was going to like her. With our homes in Hull and York being such a short distance apart, and both of us writing very Northern crime novels, it was maybe inevitable that we'd team up for more events.

- x -

And so it proved. We shared numerous events in our own cities and further afield and would regularly meet on the road at various festivals. It would always end up with food and drink and talk of family, friends and the latest goings on in the crime writing world. I'm fortunate to have so many good memories, but when I started to arrange a launch party for my latest novel in Hull, it was natural for Helen to chair the night. Generous to a fault, she not only gave up her time to do it, but recognising it was a special night for me, would only accept a drink in exchange for her time. It's testament to her skill as an interviewer that she also sold out of books on the night, the audience eating out of her hand. I also learned that Helen's sons knew the York band, Bull, who I'd asked to play a set to open the night. Missing their transport connection, Helen simply threw them and their mountain of equipment into the back of her small car and headed for home.

- x -

At that point, Helen was nearing the end of her first treatment cycle and we'd continue to meet in various places and talk about 2017; her hopes for future work, what events we could do together, the ways she could help with Hull Noir, and our children - hers at university, mine just starting school - and everything else in between. The news earlier this year that the cancer had returned was just devastating, the further news it was terminal hard to make any sense of. Yet I was fortunate. Helen lined me up as a replacement for her writer-



in-residence gig at 'Mystery on the Rails', a National Railway Museum exhibition in York, so we managed to meet up between treatments. The last time we did that was in Helen's back garden, a fortnight before she died. We both knew what was coming, but sitting in the sun for a couple of hours talking about everything and nothing and putting the world to rights, was a privilege and something to be thankful for.

- x -

One thing we spoke about excitedly was the launch of the Big City Read programme, which centres on her first Sean Denton novel, To Catch a Rabbit. Helen being Helen, it wasn't just about her moment in the spotlight, more that she knew how much readers would enjoy hearing from the line-up which includes so many of her friends. Reading Race to the Kill, the third Sean Denton novel, is going to be tough knowing there won't be anymore, the forthcoming poetry collection tougher still. Regardless of genre, Helen's work is packed full of heart and hope and that's what I intend to remember and celebrate as I read them.

- x -

Helen was the first of many crime writers to offer any help she could to Hull Noir. The themes in her work; The North, social justice and compassion run through the festival and made her a perfect fit. Helen also shared a publisher with Ted Lewis, a fan of his terse prose, and her expertise in delivering creative writing workshops within prisons meant she would have played a full part. She'll be missed, but many glasses will be raised to her and her work throughout the festival.

Nick Quantrill  
September, 2017



## HULL NOIR AT A GLANCE

Key: Festival Read | Author Panel | Special Event | Noir Film Season

Date	Event	Venue
15 Oct	Fudge Book Club	Fudge, Princes Avenue
7 Nov	Swanland Library Book Group	Swanland Library
9 Nov	North Ferriby Library Book Group I	North Ferriby Library
12 Nov	Hull Noir at the Bar	Minerva
13 Nov	Point Blank	Vue Cinema, Princes Quay
14 Nov	Hull Central Library Crime Group	Hull Central Library
14 Nov	The Darker Side of Hull: murder walk with Mike Covell	Britannia Royal Hotel
15 Nov	Get Carter	Vue Cinema, Princes Quay
16 Nov	North Ferriby Library Book Group II	North Ferriby Library
16 Nov	Dead Man's Shoes	Vue Cinema, Princes Quay
17 Nov	Book launch - Getting Carter: Ted Lewis and the Birth of Brit Noir - book launch; screening of Gillian Hobson's film, Memory of Water	Kardomah 94
18 Nov	Sleeping with the Fishes: Hull vs Iceland	Britannia Royal Hotel
18 Nov	Craphouse to Powerhouse: the North, crime fiction and post-Brexit blues	Britannia Royal Hotel
18 Nov	Into the Darkness: the new noir	Britannia Royal Hotel
18 Nov	Get Carter: Ted Lewis and the hardboiling of British crime fiction	Britannia Royal Hotel
18 Nov	Martina Cole: a crime writing silver jubilee - in conversation with Barry Forshaw	Britannia Royal Hotel
18 Nov	Dark Winter - Ensemble 52 script-in-hand reading	Kardomah 94
19 Nov	Getting Away with Murder: golden age vs digital age	Britannia Royal Hotel
19 Nov	Behind Bars: freedom, oppression and control	Britannia Royal Hotel
19 Nov	Off the Beaten Track: exploring roads less taken	Britannia Royal Hotel
19 Nov	Brawlers and Bastards: the rise of the unlikeable protagonist	Britannia Royal Hotel
19 Nov	A Year in the Crime Writing Life: Mark Billingham and John Connolly with Jake Kerridge	Britannia Royal Hotel



# THE INTERNATIONAL CRIME FICTION CONVENTION



WHERE THE PEN IS BLOODIER THAN THE SWORD

17 - 20 MAY 2018  
BRISTOL, UNITED KINGDOM

## 10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Feature Guest Authors  
include

**Lee Child**  
**Jeffery Deaver**

*More to follow*

Other participating authors:

**Simon Brett**  
**Martin Edwards**  
**Ruth Dudley Edwards**  
**Felix Francis**  
**Elly Griffiths**  
**John Harvey**  
**Mick Herron**  
**Sarah Hilary**  
**Andrew Taylor**

(For the full line-up visit [www.crimefest.com](http://www.crimefest.com))

Thanks to...

All those who helped along the way, especially 'Magic' George East Dunning, who gave us our first panel title over a pint one afternoon in the Hull Cheese; Paul Davy at DavyArt whose creative input to programme design and layout took something essentially functional and turned it into a piece of low-fi noir art with a unique Hull flavour.

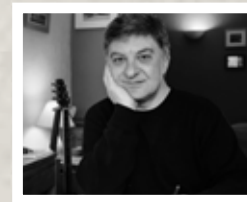
Many thanks to Sam Hunt, Liam Rich and Laura Beddows at Hull 2017, whose help has been invaluable; Gavin Turner and all at Hull Libraries for their tireless support of writers, writing and reading across the city; Chris Heale at Waterstones Hull, for his help and enthusiasm; Karen Robinson at the Times/Sunday Times Crime Club and our partners in crime fiction, Damien Greco and Ellie Irwin at Hull Independent Cinema, and Andy Pearson at Ensemble 52.



Nikki East



Nick Quantrill



Nick Triplow

## BOOKING INFORMATION

For all events, book via: [hull2017.co.uk/hullnoir](http://hull2017.co.uk/hullnoir)

Ticket pricing:

£75 weekend, £40 day, £10 individual panel.

For information about other Hull2017 events:  
[www.hull2017.co.uk](http://www.hull2017.co.uk)




# HULL NOIR



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