SURVIVORS' POETRY NEWSLETTER

JANUARY/FEBRUARY/MARCH 1999

CELEBRATION IN ALDEBURGH



Alison Smith of Survivors' Poetry and Larry Butler of Survivors Poetry Scotland 'celebrate' in Aldeburah!

The theme of the Aldeburgh Poetry Festival for 1998 was 'Celebration'. It was the 10th Festival held in this remote seaside town and we were delighted to have a Survivors' Poetry event included in the Fringe Programme.

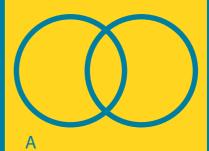
The first cause for celebration was simply reaching Aldeburgh - like many places that time has forgotten, it is further away than it seems. After fighting the traffic out of North London for hours, then crossing windy flatlands of Essex and Suffolk, it was an immediate relief to emerge to a small town where the only background noise was the rattle of surf on shingle. The second reason to celebrate is the way in which poetry is taken so seriously here - the readings were packed and there was a real sense of everyone living and breathing poetry and nothing

but poetry. The imaginative staging, excellent pa system and lighting put many London venues to shame - the careful positioning of a welcoming pub next door to the readings was a thoughtful touch.

NUMBER 3

'Our' event was probably one of the most varied - Larry Butler read a variety of survivor poems including one where the audience joined in a chorus of 'we're all crazy...'. Scott Verner's brilliant nature poems took us to a world where the colours are far more vivid than East Anglia's muted greys. Selima Hill read some of her unpublished work on the theme of mental distress which was hauntingly moving. Our thanks to Michael Laskey and

his team for including us.



SURVIVOR IS DEFINED AS A PERSON WITH A CURRENT OR PAST EXPERIENCE OF **PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITALS,** A RECIPIENT OF ECT. **TRANQUILLISERS OR OTHER** MEDICATION, A USER OF COUNSELLING SERVICES, A SURVIVOR OF SEXUAL ABUSE, CHILD ABUSE AND ANY OTHER SURVIVOR WHO HAS EMPATHY WITH OUR EXPERIENCE.

Christmas at the Poetry Café

We were delighted at the turnout for our Christmas Party at the Poetry Café. Perhaps it was the excellent food or maybe the intimate atmosphere and comfy chairs, but we were treated to an evening of exceptional poetry and music. Pascale Petit's read from Heart of a Deer to great acclaim and lvor Game's lyrics and melodies were enjoyed by everyone. But perhaps the highlight was the quality and variety of the floorspots... we all wanted the evening to go on longer. Many thanks to Jessica Yorke for making us all so welcome.

The next Survivors' Poetry events at the Poetry Café will be:

Thursday 18th February, Thursday 25th March. The Poetry Café is at 22 Betterton Street, nearest Tube is Covent Garden. It has a wheelchair accessible toilet and a lift to the lower floor.

AWARDS AND GRANT SCHEMES

Information for Survivors' Poetry Groups around the country

The Millennium Festival Fund Awards for All



The Millennium Festival Fund Awards for All is offering grants to local and small scale voluntary organisations to "enable, or significantly enhance a project that will bring lasting benefits to local people ... and which has clear reasons for taking place in the year 2000".

Funds available under Festival for All ranges from £500 - £5,000. Priority is given to smaller organisations. The lottery distributors include The Arts Council for England, English Sports Council, Heritage Lottery Fund, Millennium Commission and National Lottery Charities Board.

All you need to do is to register with one of the following contacts (application packs to be distributed from April 1999):

The Arts Council of England 0171 312 0123 Heritage Lottery Fund 0171 591 6042 Millennium commission via NMEC Festival Advisors: Scotland 01259 219 905 Wales: 01222 228 224 N Ireland 01232 526 313 National Lotteries Charity Board Regional Offices (England): London: 0171 292 8526 South West: 01392 849700 South East: 01483 568764 Eastern: 01223 449000 W e s t Midlands: 0121 200 3500 North East: 0191 255 1100 Fast Midlands: 0115 934 9300 Yorkshire & Humberside: 0113 245 4104 North West: 01925 231241

Small Grants Schemes

National Lottery Charities Board are offering between £500-£5,000 to small charities and community groups (annual income less than £15,000). Applications will be assessed and awards made within 3 months of submission. Contact 0345 458458 for an information pack. How will it help? It could be anything from start-up costs to training and equipment - to use in any way you feel the funds would make a difference to your group.

Mind Small Grants Fund - to help start up a project with a one off grant - normally the award maximum is £500.

Mind Millennium Award (England/ Wales) - to help set up an advocacy, or other support group, organise education/information events, arts/ awareness event, start a poetry/ writing/drama group. Applications can be between £1,000-£5,000 per year projects ending by March 2000.

Details available direct from Mind

- Granta House, 15-19 Broadway, London E15 4BQ Tel: 0181 522 2122 (Ext 2122 (Millennium Award))

The People's Millennium Award Scheme: CAN DO

What would improve life in your community in London? What could you do with £2,000? The Scarman Trust wants to hear your ideas for projects to benefit your local area!

Phone the free Can Do hotline: 0800 800 886 (Hotline open 24 hours. We'll send you a CAN DO Action Pack, and an application form. Deadline for applications: 12 Feb 1999.

Raymond Williams Prize for Community Publishing 1999

Awards to non-profit making publishers producing books in mutual and co-operative ways. Winning entry: £3,000. Runner-up: £2,000. Deadline Friday 30th April 1999. For an application form please contact: Valerie Olteanu, Literature Department, Arts Council of England, 14 Great Peter Street, London SW1P 3NQ. Tel: 0171 973 6442. Fax: 0171 973 6520

Do you have a tale to tell, experiences to share? The highs and lows, words of wisdom - and that moment when the cheque arrives in the post (did you all hold it)? If you do have any antidotes, snippets of advice (or even tales of woe) to share about fund-raising - write in and tell us about them.

JOINING FORCES NOVEMBER 1998 AT NOTTINGHAM TRENT UNIVERSITY

On a very wet and blustery cold morning people from across the country braved the weather to attend the first ever Seminar held under our "Surviving the Millennium" Programme. Held in the wonderful settings of Nottingham Trent University underneath a glass dome (which later transpired to be a building put up within a building).

Victoria Field, Survivors' Poetry's Director, introduced the proceedings highlighting the lack of provision within the mental health system particularly for survivors from black and ethnic minority groups. Recognising that being in the mental health system can seriously disrupt access to education and employment opportunities - the Seminar aimed to look at the way forward for arts, education and health sectors to work together.

Jo Verrent, Director of East Midlands Shape, gave her experiences both as a survivor and employer of disabled people and survivors, highlighting the need for the employers to accept and accommodate people's access needs, giving practical ideas as to how this could be done.

Kathryn James gave us insight into an innovative project to offer support and training to survivors within the education system run by New College Claredon and funded by the local health board. Suky Johal, Director of Apna Arts illustrated how The APNA Festival 'Our Mela' empowered young South Asians through a two day festival working with experienced arts practitioners from music, dance, drama and visual arts to promote the wealth of talent and energy from within the community.

SuAndi, Cultural Director from Black Arts Alliance illustrated very clearly the fundamental cultural differences and experiences of



Ushawant Kaur from Leeds Survivors' Poetry

the black and Asian communities within the mental health system how institutionalised racism backs up the statistics¹. How cultures define us not only as people but as artists, performers, poets - achievers. SuAndi interwove her own poetry giving her experiences as an artist



Clockwise, from left: Alison Combes (ACE Lit. Dept.), Darren Ruse (Derbyshire Coalition of Disabled People), Alison Smith (SP) and Bill McDade (Mapperly Poetry Society).

and performer.

The day ended with а lengthy discussion and key recommendations included development of information resources and a database/directory. A comprehensive directory listing not only the range of organisations working within the remit of mental health, arts and health but illustrating examples of good practice. Survivors' Poetry is very grateful for the support of East Midlands Shape, our partners in the East Midlands and The National Lottery through the Arts Council of England for making the Seminar possible. Three more Seminars are planned over the next two years.

u DATES FOR YOUR DIARY u EVE

SURVIVORS IN PERFORMANCE AT SOMERSTOWN

Our regular, monthly performance of poetry and music by and for survivors of mental distress

at Somers Town Community Centre, 150 Ossulston Street, (off Euston Road), London NW1 8pm - 10.30pm. (Doors 7.30) Entry: £3.50 (full),£1.50 (conc) £1 (floorspots/current inpatients)

SATURDAY 30TH JANUARY 1999: MC: Peter Campbell (a loon with a view); Poet and storyteller: John Horder (author of Rumpelstiltskin praised by Michael Palin and Adrian Mitchell); Musician: Fiona Branson ("impressive Singer-Songwriter" Time Out) and finally poets from Fulham and Chelsea Survivors' Poetry will be reading from the first issue of their new poetry magazine, Mind the Gap.

SATURDAY 27TH FEBRUARY 1999: A memorial event dedicated to P.J. Fahy (1943 - 1998) If you would like to participate please call Clare Douglas on 0171 916 5317

SATURDAY 27TH MARCH 1999. Details to be confirmed.

Tube/Rail: King's Cross/Euston. Buses: 10, 30, 68, 73, 91, 168, 188 and 253. Access: Wheelchair access, accessible toilet and induction loop. The performances feature new and established Survivor Poets. New poets are welcome to read or perform their work. Space is limited, so please ring the Survivors' Poetry office on 0171 916 5317 beforehand to book your floorspot, and preferably arrive early on the night. Priority is given to poets who have not performed at our events before.

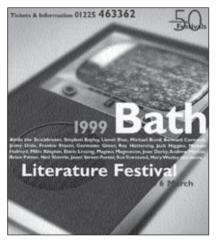
FORTHCOMING FESTIVALS

1999 Bath Literature Festival: 26th February to 6th March.

Bath will host two survivor events on Saturday 6th March .

Poets Ruth Padel and Kit Wright read from 12 noon - 1pm in the Guildhall ($\pounds 4/\pounds 3$) and Stepping Out Theatre Company, formed by Bristol Survivors' Poetry last year perform extracts from their sell-out show "The Truth is Out There Somewhere" from 2pm - 3pm in the Guildhall ($\pounds 4/\pounds 3$).

For tickets and further information call the festival on 01225 463362. We can offer some free tickets and



help with travel to young (under 30) survivor poets.

Applications in writing should be sent to Alison Smith.



The Word is a carnival celebration of all aspects of literature and language - Survivors' Poetry is acting as a partner in the festival and we are programming fifteen different events across London between 19th - 29th March.

FRIDAY 19TH MARCH 4PM - 6PM POETRY WORKSHOP CHALK FARM LIBRARY, SHARPLESHALL STREET, LONDON NW1 8YN FREE LED BY POET DOROTHEA SMARTT. COME AND EXPLORE YOUR DREAMS AND MEMORIES. WHEELCHAIR ACCESS AND INDUCTION LOOP.

SATURDAY 20TH MARCH 2PM - 4.30PM POETRY WORKSHOP North Finchley Library, Ravensdale Avenue, London N12 9HP Free Raman Mundair is of Indian Panjabi Heritage and is an experienced workshop Facilitator. She believes that we all

HAVE STORIES WE ARE LONGING TO TELL. NO WHEELCHAIR ACCESS (24 STAIRS).

TUESDAY 23RD MARCH 12.30 - 2PM POETRY READING HOLBORN LIBRARY, 32-38 THEOBALDS ROAD LONDON WC1X 8PA FREE WITH PASCALE PETIT, JOHN RETY AND SCOTT VERNER. WHEELCHAIR ACCESS AND IND. LOOP.

TUESDAY 23RD MARCH 11.30 - 3PM POETRY TASTER AND WORKSHOP THE CANAL HOUSE, 95 LONDON ROAD, BRENTFORD TW8 8JQ FREE, BUT BOOK. FOR ANYONE WHO HAS EVER WANTED TO TRY CREATIVE WRITING IN A SAFE AND SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT. WITH CHERYL MOSKOWITZ AND MAVIS CREEK.WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE.

TUESDAY 23RD MARCH 7 - 8.30PM POETRY IN PERFORMANCE GOLDERS GREEN LIBRARY, 156, GOLDERS GREEN ROAD LONDON NW11 8HE £2/£1 POETRY AND MUSIC FROM POET JOE BIDDER AND SINGER-SONGWRITER JUDITH SILVER WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE.

TUESDAY 23RD MARCH 1 - 2.30PM POETRY IN PERFORMANCE HAMMERSMITH LIBRARY, SHEPHERDS BUSH ROAD, LONDON W6FREE WITH FULHAM AND CHELSEA SURVIVORS' POETRY, PROMOTING THE FIRST ISSUE OF THEIR EXCITING MAGAZINE, MIND THE GAP.

NTS u WORKSHOPS u FESTIVALS u



WEDNESDAY 24TH MARCH 2 - 5PM POETRY WORKSHOP Stratford Library, Water Lane London E15 4NH Free, but places are limited. This workshop is open to all and will focus on the natural world as a source of material for poetry. With Scott Verner. Wheelchair Accessible

WEDNESDAY 24TH MARCH 7 - 8PM POETRY IN PERFORMANCE Stratford Library, Water Lane London E15 4NHFree With Ian Jentle and Hazel Lezah. Come AND BE MOVED, AMUSED AND AMAZED. WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE.

THURSDAY 25TH MARCH 5PM - 7PM POETRY WORKSHOP PITTSHANGER MANOR AND GALLERY MATTOCK LANE, EALING W5 5EQ.

£3/£2 (INCLUDES FREE ADMISSION TO THE 7.30 PERFORMANCE) HAVE YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO 'HAVE A GO' AT WRITING POETRY? THE WORKSHOP WILL BE CONDUCTED BY THE POET MIMI KHALVATI.

THURSDAY 25TH MARCH 7.30 - 9PM POETRY READING

PITTSHANGER MANOR AND GALLERY MATTOCK LANE, EALING W5 5EQ.£3/£2 WITH POETS KEN SMITH, EAMER O'KEEFFE AND JOHN HORDER.

FRIDAY 26TH MARCH 3.30 - 5PM POETRY READING LANSBURY LIBRARY, 23-27 MARKET WAY LONDON E14 6AH FREE WITH POETS ANNE ROUSE AND JOE ASSER. FULLY ACCESSIBLE, LOOP SYSTEM.

SATURDAY 27TH MARCH 10AM-12.30PM POETRY WORKSHOP Wood Green Library, High Road, London N22 6XC Free Writing games with Christina Dunhill.

SATURDAY 27TH MARCH 3PM - 4.30PM POETRY IN PERFORMANCE FULHAM LIBRARY, 598 FULHAM ROAD, LONDON SW6 FREE FULHAM AND CHELSEA SURVIVORS' POETRY GROUP PERFORMING A MIXTURE OF SERIOUS AND LIGHT-HEARTED POETRY.

WOMEN IN FOCUS FESTIVAL

Survivors' Poetry is taking part in an exciting collaborative project in London with the Forbidden Theatre Company and Studio Upstairs, a fine art collective. The aim of the project is to communicate in an artistic manner the experiences of women in the mental health system over the last 80 years and to celebrate the achievements of women in art. The project will include an original play, Quiet, which will be performed at the studio theatre, Diorama Arts Centre from Wednesday 10th March to Sunday 21st March and an art exhibition in the Gallery entitled Her Space. Survivors'Poetry is organising the following events:

Wednesday 10th March 1999. FRESHER THAN GREEN, BRIGHTER THAN ORANGE

Poems by Irish women - Surviving the Millennium.

Diorama Arts Centre, 34 Osnaburgh Street, London NW1. Tel: 0171 916 5317

6pm. Free.

A reading by Irish women poets who are based in and around the London Borough of Camden.

The poems will also be displayed in an exhibition taking place in the foyer of the Diorama Arts Centre and a book containing poems from the exhibition and reading will be launched and available for purchase this evening.

Friday 12th March 1999. COLOURS OF YOUTH Diorama Arts Centre, 34 Osnaburgh Street, London NW1. Tel: 0171 916 5317

7pm. Free.

A dramatic reading of poetry by young women on what it means to be young and female at the end of the millennium.

Saturday 13th March 1999 PERCEPTIONS WORKSHOP

Diorama Arts Centre, 34 Osnaburgh Street, London NW1. Tel: 0171 916 5317

11am - 1pm. Free - but please book your place in advance

A creative writing workshop where participants will be encouraged to write poems based on how they experience the exhibitions displayed at the Diorama Arts Centre as part of the Women in Focus festival. The exhibitions include "Her Space" by the Studio Upstairs and "Fresher than Green, Brighter than Orange" by Survivors' Poetry. Both men and women of all ages are invited to attend this workshop. No writing experience necessary - just enthusiasm!

Tuesday 9th March - Friday 19th March 1999

FRESHER THAN GREEN, BRIGHTER THAN ORANGE

An exhibition of poems by Irish women - Surviving the Millennium. Diorama Arts Centre, 10am - 5pm daily. Free.

OPEN READINGS AT THE POETRY CAFE

Thursday 18th February 1999 Thursday 25th March 1999 22 Betterton Street, London WC2 9BU. 7.30pm - 11pm Entry: £2 (full) £1 (conc.) This regular event at the Poetry Cafe gives space for new and established survivor poets and musicians to air their work in relaxed and convivial surroundings. All welcome. Tube: Covent Garden or Holborn (Piccadilly Line). Access: Lift and wheelchair accessible toilet.

Would you like to take part in the 1999 Women in Focus Festival this spring?

Survivors' Poetry are organising a variety of events as part of this festival (see below and page 5 for more information).

Irish women poets wanted!

We are planning an exhibition, a small publication and a reading on Wednesday 10th March as part of our Fresher than Green - Brighter Than Orange project. If you would like to be published, exhibit your poetry in a public space and read your poems (or have them read), to an audience, then we would love to hear from you. The theme of this project is Surviving the Millennium so your poetry must, in some way, relate to this theme. Please send up to six poems, an SAE, and a few words about yourself to "Irish women in focus", at the address below. Please include a contact telephone number, if possible. You must live in London to take part.

Deadline for applicants is Wednesday 17th February '99.

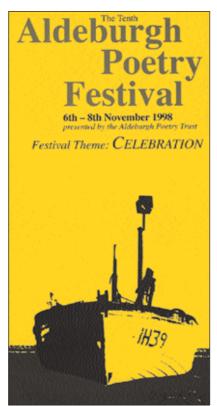
young women poets wanted!

To take part in a "dramatic" reading on Friday 12th March about what it feels and what it means to be young and female at the end of the Millennium. Please send up to six poems, an SAE, and a few words about yourself to "Young women in focus", at the address below. Please include a contact telephone number, if possible. You must live in London and be under 30 years old to take part.

Deadline for applicants is Wednesday 17th February '99.

supported by the National Lottery through the Arts Council of England. SURVIVORS' POETRY 34 Osnaburgh Street London NW1 3ND

POETSPOTTING IN ALDEBURGH



Thirteen young survivors trundled up the A12 from London to Aldeburgh in a hired minibus to experience the delights of Aldeburgh Poetry Festival. The action packed day (the bus journey itself proved eventful) included a Survivors' Poetry performance (with Larry Butler, Selima Hill and Scott Verner), a screening of The Blasphemer's Banquet - a poet-film presented by Peter Symes and ended with a poetry reading including Dannie Abse, Kevin Crossley-Holland and



Lisa Boardman of Survivors' Poetry and poet, Selima Hill (right)

Rita Ann Higgins. In between the main ticketed events we managed a very successful get-together at Cross Keys Pub with the Survivors' Poetry performers and members of the audience and a leisurely stroll on the pebbled beach watching the sun set.

For many of us it was the first opportunity to experience a renowned literary festival and this did give us much food for thought with a lengthy debate about the event, particularly with regards to The Blasphemer's Banquet ensured on the way home. The day was an overall success and one which we will continue to repeat over then next two years under Surviving the Millennium Programme of work. If you would like to take part in any of the festival visits please contact Alison Smith.

LAPIDUS LONDON MEETING

LAPIDUS (The Association for Literary Arts in Personal Development) is an organisation that exists to promote links between people interested in the connections between the literary arts (including, of course, poetry!) and personal development.

A LAPIDUS local London group will be launched on the 27th February at the Diorama Arts Centre. This first meeting from 2pm - 5pm will provide a forum for the exchange of ideas and experiences of LAPIDUS members who are invited to give ten minute presentations about their area of interest. Non-members who would like to learn more about LAPIDUS are also invited to attend. There will be a small charge to cover room hire and refreshments: £2 to LAPIDUS members and £3 to nonmembers. Please call Alison Clayburn on 0171 231 0243

NEW PUBLICATIONS

MIND THE GAP A QUARTERLY POETRY MAGAZINE by Fulham & Chelsea Survivors' Poetry Group

Mind the Gap is a quarterly poetry magazine whose first issue is published this January. The magazine celebrates the work of the participants of Fulham & Chelsea Survivors' Poetry Group.



The group has been running since 1995 and has been filling a "gap" in the needs for self-expression for many survivors and kindred spirits in South and West London. This issue contains a rich blend of poems by published poets like Juliet Jones and Lloyd Lindsay, with contributions from survivors stepping into print for the first time.

The poems weave their own magic of powerful imagery and deep feelings on a broad range of themes from, "The First Born" to "The Last Siren".

Price £1.95 ISSN 1465 - 7155 Subscription £5.90 per annum

(4 issues) from The Fulham & Chelsea Survivors Poetry Group at the Tamworth Project, 11 Farm Lane, Fulham, London SW6 1PU. Tel: 0171 386 5699. Fax: 0171 386 5670.

JIGSAW WHATLEY WRITERS ANTHOLOGY Edited by Liz Daughters, Patrick McManus and Ann Vaughan-Williams

Voices of many tones, subjects of all shapes and forms, all different, all lively, fit into this collection aptly called Jigsaw. Forty four voices of poets and prose writers always chosen for their energy and element of surprise make up this entertaining collection. Whatley writers are a group of well-established local writers and talented beginners. Price £3.50 ISBN 0 9534773 0 4 Whatley Writers Press, 20 Coombe Gardens, London SW20 0QU.

PRICKLING COUNTER-POINTS COLLECTED POETRY AND PROSE by Dave Russell

Few people involved with survivors' poetry and music will not have heard of Dave Russell's performances. Many have asked after his words on the printed page. Now: the long-awaited collection, featuring his main song lyrics, prose passages, poems and an eerie epic 'Nothing Hero' Available at alternative bookshops, Dillons/ Waterstones, or direct from Dave. Get your copy now; it's an absorbing read.

Price £5 + 35p p&p. ISBN 0-9514759-1-6 David Russell, 8 McGregor Road, London W11 1DE. Tel: 0171 229 3350. (Please make cheques/POs payable to Deadline Books)

NAKED SONGS AND RHYTHMS OF HOPE by Frank Bangay

Frank Bangay was one of the founder members of Survivors' Poetry. He is nearing completion of an illustrated collection of his poetry writings called Naked Songs and Rhythms of Hope. This collection contains poems written between 1974 and 1998, and illustrations dating from 1982 to 1998. However, he needs to raise some more money before he can get the book published. The collection will cost £7.95, with a discretionary/concessionary price of £3.00. If you are interested in buying a copy in advance, please send a cheque or Postal Order, payable to F. Bangay or Francis Bangay, at 28a Edgar House, Kingsmead Estate, Homerton Road, London E9 5QH. As soon as the book is published you will be sent a copy. Also, if any one knows bodies to whom Frank could apply for a small grant to help provide the funds still needed to meet publication costs, please contact him by letter at the above address. Any help you can give will be much appreciated.

Editorial

Survivors' Poetry Newsletter is a quarterly publication. It's purpose is to publicise events and activities organised by Survivors' Poetry and by Survivorled Poetry groups all over the country. Please send us articles, small features and events listings about your group or about anything that you think may be of interest to our readers. Work should be typed or on disc. We cannot guarantee publication and the editor reserves the right to edit any contributions. No more than 500 words. No poetry please. The views expressed in this publication are not necessarily the views of Survivors' Poetry. Next copy deadline (for April/ May/June issue) Friday 19th March 1999.

Designed and edited by Lisa Boardman (Information Worker)

WHO'S WHO AT SURVIVORS' <u>POETRY</u>

TRUSTEES Jim Green Richard Hallward Danielle Hope Roger Moulson Anne Rouse Julian Turner Scott Verner (Chair)

OFFICE STAFF

Lisa Boardman (Information, enquiries) Clare Douglas (Administration) Victoria Field (Director) Alison Smith (UK Outreach)

VOLUNTEERS

Alistair Brinkley Peter Campbell Jenny Ford Mala Mason Kit Parke Amita Patel Hilary Porter Dave Russell Xochitl Tuck

ADVISORY GROUP

Paul Beasley, Joe Bidder, Christina Dunhill, Kwabena Gyedu, Miriam Hastings, Mimi Khalvati, Jane Law, Peter McDonald, Emma McMullen, Andrew Pinnock, Richard Sutton.

Survivors' Poetry is funded by: The Arts Council of England London Arts Board

We are very grateful for the financial support of: Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation City Parochial Foundation Esmee Fairbairn Charitable Trust London Borough of Camden

> Survivors' Poetry Diorama Arts Centre 34 Osnaburgh Street London NW1 3ND

TEL: 0171 916 5317 Fax: 0171 916 0830 E-MAIL:

survivor@survivorspoetry. org.uk "The value of Survivors' Poetry is that it offers our experience a valid vehicle for expression. It gives people the chance to claim back some of the dignity and self-respect previously taken from them". ~ A Survivor ~

E-Mail Correction

We apologise to those who have been unable to send us e-mail. We did not print our full address in the last issue. The correct address is: survivor@survivorspoetry.org.uk.

Thank You !!!

We would like to acknowledge our thanks for the generosity of one of our readers (who wanted to remain anonymous). Hundreds of poetry books and magazines have been donated to our ever-growing library. They will be a source of knowledge and inspiration for people at Survivors' Poetry for many years to come. If anybody else would like to make donations of poetry magazines or books to help our library grow we would be very grateful to receive them.

Volunteers Wanted

We are currently developing a volunteer programme. We are interested to receive CV's from people who would like to help Survivors' Poetry. We are looking for people to help administratively in the office and/ or at our events. Please send your CV to Clare Douglas, with a note about how you would like to contribute to the

work of Survivors' Poetry. You can ring Clare on 0171 916 5317 if you would like more information.

All Welcome

Thursday 18th February Thursday 1st April.

We are looking for volunteers who would be willing to help stuff envelopes at our Newsletter Mailing Parties. We hope these parties can be an enjoyable social occasion as well help us in reaching as many survivors as possible throughout the UK. They are held every six weeks, at The Diorama Arts Centre (see address below). Travel expenses are paid, a light buffet provided. 4.30pm - 7pm. Ring Lisa Boardman for more information and to let us know that you will be coming. Thank you.

Mind in Camden 1999

Apologies for the errors in the Mind in Camden flyers for this year. The dates of the poetry workshops in February, March and April are all on a Tuesday and are: 9th Feb., 23rd Feb., 9th March, 23rd March, 6th April and 20th April. Please ring us if you would like more information.



PROMOTING POETRY BY SURVIVORS OF MENTAL DISTRESS