



22 September 2016

Lord Mayor hails crime festival as a huge success

The Lord Mayor of Norwich, Marion Maxwell, described her visit to *Noir*wich Crime Writing Festival as 'most wonderful' and hailed it as a huge success for 2016.

The third annual festival for lovers of crime fiction took place between 15 – 18 September, attracting around 1,000 audience members to events across the city.

Highlights included international bestselling authors Peter James and Ian Rankin, a free family crime trail in the city centre and a very Bloody Brunch in the medieval grounds of Dragon Hall.

The Lord Mayor attended a panel on 'Domestic Noir' at Writers' Centre Norwich, Dragon Hall on the Saturday, and met celebrated authors of the genre Julia Crouch, Christobel Kent and Sarah Hilary afterwards.

She said: 'I had the most wonderful time and it was amazing to meet the writers. The panel I attended was inviting and the authors just divine. They all had a great sense of humour and were so easy to talk with.'

Chris Gribble, Chief Executive at Writers' Centre Norwich, one of the festival organisers said:

'*Noir*wich is going from strength to strength. From our new family crime-solving trail around the city to the hundreds who gathered at UEA for Ian Rankin and in Dragon Hall for our Bloody Brunch, the city came alive with readers, crime writing fans and amateur sleuths!

'A big thank you must go to our partners, Dead Good Books and the University of East Anglia, and our supporters, including Norwich Business Improvement District, for making this year's festival the best yet.'

Noirwich Crime Writing Festival is a partnership between Dead Good Books, the University of East Anglia and Writers' Centre Norwich.

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Notes to editors:

1. *Noirwich* Crime Writing Festival 15 – 18 September, Norwich. The core festival partners are Dead Good Books, UEA and Writers' Centre Norwich. Events took place at UEA, Writers' Centre Norwich, Dragon Hall and Jarrold. A fringe festival also took place at venues across the city.
www.noirwich.co.uk #Noirwich

2. About Writers' Centre Norwich (WCN)

WCN is a literature development organisation based in England's first UNESCO City of Literature, Norwich. WCN is interested in both the artistic and social impact of creative writing, and works with writers, readers and diverse communities on a wide range of ongoing and one-off projects and events. Writers' Centre Norwich is currently developing a National Centre for Writing at Dragon Hall to open in 2018 as a major cultural venue for the city. www.writerscentrenorwich.org.uk

3. About Dead Good Books

Dead Good is the home of killer crime books, drama and film. Established in October 2012, it's dedicated to discovering, sharing and recommending thrilling crime. Whether you visit to find out about your favourite author's new book, to enter an exclusive competition or to find out more about your favourite crime drama, Dead Good is the place for you. www.deadgoodbooks.co.uk

4. About University of East Anglia (UEA)

UEA is one of the best universities in the UK for student satisfaction according to the 2014 Times Higher Education Student Experience Survey and is ranked in the top 1% of HE institutions in the world. The School of Literature, Drama and Creative Writing at UEA has a long-established international reputation in literary studies and is world famous for pioneering courses in creative writing. www.uea.ac.uk/literature

5. This event is supported by Arts Council England, Jarrold, Look Sideways East, Norwich Business Improvement District, Norwich City of Stories, Norwich City Council, Norfolk County Council and Waterstones.