



11 JULY 2016

Line-up revealed for *Noirwich* Crime Writing Festival 2016

Some of the biggest names in crime writing including Ian Rankin, Peter James, Charlie Higson and Sophie Hannah (author of the new Poirot series) are coming to the city for the third international *Noirwich* Crime Writing Festival, 15-18 September 2016.

Crime writing is the most popular genre in the UK and over 1,500 visitors are expected to Norwich for what has become one of the highlights of the crime writing calendar. With events taking place at Writers' Centre Norwich's home Dragon Hall, Jarrold, and the University of East Anglia (UEA), as well as a fringe festival across the city, a killer weekend is guaranteed!

The festival kicks off with *Sunday Times* bestseller Peter James at Jarrold on Thursday 15 September. On the Friday, Ian Rankin headlines at UEA and events take place all day at Dragon Hall on Saturday 17 September – rounding off with a Bloody Brunch on the Sunday - where visitors can enjoy a Bloody Mary and brunch with six sensational crime writers.

Chris Gribble, Chief Executive at Writers' Centre Norwich, one of the festival organisers, says "We're delighted that audiences locally and nationally will be able to enjoy some of the biggest and most exciting crime writers of the moment. This festival will grow and grow and help Norwich, England's first UNESCO City of Literature, promote tourism and attract new visitors to our cultural attractions and businesses".

Henry Sutton, Senior Lecturer in Creative Writing at UEA and award-winning crime novelist, is one of the founders of *Noirwich*. He says "We want to make Norwich the world's leading centre for the enjoyment and study of crime fiction; this year's fantastic line-up brings us a big step closer to that goal".

Lynsey Dalladay, Head of Marketing, Interest Brands at Dead Good Books (Penguin Random House's crime community) says "We're delighted to be partnering with the festival for a second

year running. The quality and variety of events at this year's *Noirwich* is outstanding and offers crime fans the inside scoop on crime writing. It's going to be a thrilling four days."

For details and tickets see www.noirwich.co.uk

/ENDS

Notes to editors:

1. For more information or to arrange interviews or photographs, please contact Alice Kent, Director of Communications, WCN on 01603 877177 or at alice.kent@writerscentrenorwich.org.uk

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

3. 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

4. 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

5. 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

6. This event is supported by Arts Council England, Norwich City Council, Norfolk County Council, University of East Anglia and the Norwich Business Improvement District.