

# NOVEMBER

## Writing from in-person group which takes place Wednesday 10.30-12.30

People share (non-obligatory) homework at the start of each session before further writing, reading and discussion. (Apologies, some items reformatted to save space):

### Hope is a waking dream (Bill)

Leaves have fallen  
Nights draw in  
Crops are gathered.  
Can we begin to be still and give thanks?  
For we are part  
Of the circle dance

### Fabric (Rachel)

Fabric to make clothes or furniture, the different texture and feel of the fabric on your fingers, from soft velvet to silky satin. There are many different sorts of fabric to make many different items.

### Bee (Linda)

Oh beautiful bee with your stripes of black and yellow.  
As you flit from flower to flower,  
A sighting of you reminds me of summer  
When I walked through meadows  
Picking flowers with my mother.  
So honeybee with your wings so bright  
You fill the world with love and light.

### Hope is a waking dream (Will)

Though she hoped the tainted waking dream, the fractured fairy-tale, the spiralling carousel, with its dreary tune and matted manes was just an illusion, a trick and trip of her meds; but further she fell down the hole, down and down into a black and blue wonderland, filled with bloody crimson roses, stitched up monsters and tin playing card knights. Her hope of a waking dream, in which she could live without care or worry, was worse than the dim reality that choked her, held her within a brown brick cage in East End Londonia. Closing her eyes, she hoped the fall will cease but where, oh where will little Alice land? In a broken dream or padded cell? Though one thing stood, 404 connection error, servers down, reality lost, hope expired, medicated dreams.

### Bovine Encounter (Maggie)

If by chance, you lean against  
the summer's gate,  
I'll offer you my warm and  
nervous tongue.  
You'll giggle as it curls around  
your fingers,  
drooling on your outstretched  
hand.  
And you may see the gentleness  
in my brown eyes.  
When you get home, you'll smile  
in memory  
of our sweet encounter at the  
gate.  
You will remember how I touched  
your soul.  
But not, I guess, the number on  
my tag.

### Haiku (Mary)

Over the road wakes  
as a blackbird starts to sing  
the shy tree shivers

**Gargoyles:** in progress, at Poole's Cavern Country Park, with **Gordon MacLellan** and Babbling Vagabond **Mark** for Buxton's Our Street project. **Tatton Park WW2 Experience** visit: 'Land Girl' Emma and lots of farm animals, large and small, for our **Women's Land Army** project.



## NOVEMBER DETAILS

### You, our participants

currently contribute to our rent in Fountain Street and help keep our services going with donations, large and small, in cash and in kind.

**Vitaly, you are also supporting one another.**

#### Hope is a waking dream (Jane)

Hope is powerful  
Hope is strong  
Hope may be invisible  
But it is a force to be reckoned with  
Not merely a dream  
But something that can be manifested  
If many hope  
Change happens.

#### National Poetry Day (Pauline)

So, it's National Poetry Day.  
Great poetry is great poetry  
Ask Pam Ayres  
Rhyming verses every time  
Any other kind is mostly too highbrow for me  
"How dare she" I hear you say!  
Well blame the English education system  
Apparently, it wasn't for the likes of me  
because I  
failed my 11+  
I'm not bitter though.  
I'm 74 and there's money in the bank  
I'm getting my pension  
And I'm self-sufficient  
What's more, I've still got my own teeth.



#### Contact details:

c/o Leek Health Centre, Fountain St  
Leek, ST13 6JB (Andy collects mail weekly)

**Phone: 01538 528708**

**Mobile: 07760 138395** (now on a better connection)

Email: [info@borderlandvoices.org.uk](mailto:info@borderlandvoices.org.uk)

Website: [www.borderlandvoices.org.uk](http://www.borderlandvoices.org.uk)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1398672493722468>

Borderland Voices contact **Andy Collins: at home but Wed in Leek**



# Borderland Voices

25 years of arts for mental wellbeing



**The Queen's Award  
for Voluntary Service**

## Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2023

**In-person sessions, Leek Health Centre, on Wednesdays.**

**Every Wednesday: 10.30-12.30 Creative Writing;**  
1.30-3.30 **Expressive Art.** All welcome.

**For further information** email [info@borderlandvoices.org.uk](mailto:info@borderlandvoices.org.uk)

**Images: Gargoyles** for Buxton's Our Street project with **Gordon and Mark; Tatton Park WW2 Experience:** taken round by a 'Land Girl' to meet everything from hens to Shire horses.

**Nov art: 1<sup>st</sup> Spooky: Andy; 8<sup>th</sup> Gargoyles: Gordon; 15<sup>th</sup> Native American art: Andy; 22<sup>nd</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> prints/shards: Georgia**

**Nov 1<sup>st</sup>, Feeding the Nation** film show by **Ray Johnson** including Land Girls at work, **Foxlowe arts centre, 7 for 7.30pm**

**Christmas?** How about 13<sup>th</sup> Dec? We need to book a lunch ...

**Visit: 8<sup>th</sup> pm, Gargoyles + Gordon** Poole's Cavem, Buxton, car share **leave, 1pm, back by 3.45.** To come, let Andy know **ASAP.**