

## Southwell U3A - Literature - Authors, Books & Poets studied, May, 2006 - 2020

2006

### The Landscape of the English Novel

|                 |                       |                             |
|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Jane Austen     | Mansfield Park        | William Blake               |
|                 | Sense and Sensibility | Elizabeth & Robert Browning |
|                 | Persuasion            | John Keats                  |
|                 | Emma                  | William Wordsworth          |
| Charles Dickens | Our Mutual Friend     | Samuel Taylor Coleridge     |

2006 – 07

### Gothic Novels and Jane Austen's Northanger Abbey

|                |                          |
|----------------|--------------------------|
| Jane Austen    | Northanger Abbey         |
| Horace Walpole | The Castle of Otranto    |
| Anne Radcliffe | The Mysteries of Udolpho |
| Mary Shelley   | Frankenstein             |

### The Eighteenth Century Novel

|                 |                    |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Jonathan Swift  | Gulliver's Travels |
| Henry Fielding  | Tom Jones          |
| Daniel Defoe    | Robinson Crusoe    |
| Lawrence Sterne | Tristram Shandy    |

2007 - 08

|  |                                       |  |                |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|----------------|
| <i>A ferment of ideas</i>                    | George Eliot (1819-80):               | Middlemarch (1871-2)                               | Poetry: Autumn |
| <i>Industrialisation and provincial life</i> | Mrs Gaskell (1810-65):                | North and South (1855)                             |                |
|  | Tennyson: Maude,                      | In Memoriam. Poet: Wickedness (Hallowe'en!)        |                |
| <i>Social evils and reform</i>               | Charles Dickens (1812-70):            | Our Mutual Friend (1864-5)                         |                |
|  | Robert and Elizabeth Barratt Browning | Poetry Theme: The lighter side of life             |                |
| <i>Inventing Christmas and the family</i>    | Charles Dickens (1812-70):            | A Christmas Carol (1843)*                          |                |
|  | Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807-82)  | Poetry theme: Family disasters                     |                |
| <i>Childhood</i>                             | Charles Dodgson (1832-98):            | Alice's Adventures in Wonderland (1865)            |                |
|  | Edward Lear                           | Poetry theme: Nonsense                             |                |
| <i>Women in a man's world</i>                | Charlotte Bronte(1816-55):            | Jane Eyre (1847)                                   |                |
|  | Christina Rossetti                    | Poetry theme: Getting one's own back               |                |
| <i>Melodrama and mystery</i>                 | Mrs Henry Wood (1814-87):             | Wilkie Collins (1824-9): The Woman in White (1860) |                |
|  | Edgar Allan Poe                       | Poetry theme: The power of the imagination         |                |
| <i>Melodrama and Mystery (2)</i>             | Robert Louis Stevenson (1850-94):     | The Strange Case Dr.Jekyll & Mr Hyde (1886)        |                |
|  | Robert Louis Stevenson                | Poetry theme: Springtime of life                   |                |
| <i>Schooling</i>                             | Thomas Hughes (1822-96):              | Tom Brown's Schooldays (1857)                      |                |
|  | Matthew Arnold                        | Poetry theme: Teaching                             |                |
| <i>Church and State</i>                      | Anthony Trollope (1815-82):           | Barchester Towers (1857)                           |                |
|  | Gerard Manley Hopkins (1844-89)       | Poetry Theme: Believing                            |                |
| <i>The psychology of tragedy</i>             | Thomas Hardy (1840-1928):             | Tess of the D'Urbevilles (1891)                    |                |
|  | Thomas Hardy                          | Poetry theme: Let out for the holidays             |                |

2008 - 09

### The Twentieth Century Novel

|                                    |                                  |   |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| <i>The beginnings of Modernism</i> | Henry James (1843-1916)          | <i>The Wings of the Dove</i> (1902)                 |
|                                    | Poetry: John Masefield           | Theme: Newness                                      |
| <i>The opening world</i>           | James Joyce (1882-1941)          | <i>Portrait of the Artist As a Young Man</i> (1916) |
|                                    | Poetry: W B Yeats                | Theme: Family relationships                         |
| <i>The Great War</i>               | Erich Maria Remarque (1898-1970) | <i>All Quiet on the Western Front</i> (1928)        |

|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <i>The exciting age</i>                                       | Poetry: Rudyard Kipling  | Theme: Loss                            |
|   | P G Wodehouse (1881-1973) <i>My Man Jeeves</i> (1919)                            |  |
|   | Poetry: Walter de la Mare  | Theme: Celebration                     |
| [added prior to Monthly Meeting by Prof John Worthen on DHL]: |  |  |
| <i>The American experience</i>                                | DHLawrence (1885 - 1930): <i>The Rainbow</i> (1915) + poetry                     |  |
|   | John Steinbeck (1902-1968) <i>The Grapes of Wrath</i> (1939)                     |  |
| <i>Sickness in society</i>                                    | Poetry: Robert Frost   | Theme: Jazz and all that               |
|   | Thomas Mann (1875-1955) <i>The Magic Mountain</i> (1924)                         |  |
| <i>The power of the state</i>                                 | Poetry: T S Eliot  | Theme: A broken society?               |
|   | George Orwell [Eric Arthur Blair] (1903-1950) <i>Nineteen Eighty-four</i> (1949) |  |
| <i>New beginnings</i>   | + <i>Animal Farm</i> (1945)  | Poetry: W H Auden Theme: Fighting back |
|   | Dylan Thomas (1914-1953) <i>Under Milk Wood</i>                                  |  |
| <i>The futility of war</i>                                    | Albert Camus (1913-1960) <i>The Outsider</i> (1942)                              |  |
|   | Poetry: Robert Graves  | Theme: Why bother?                     |
| <i>Dangerous frontiers</i>                                    | Graham Greene (1904-1991) <i>Brighton Rock</i> (1938)                            |  |
|   | Poetry: Stevie Smith   | Theme: Risk-taking                     |
| <i>The post-war age</i>                                       | Malcolm Lowry (1909-1957) <i>Under the Volcano</i> (1947)                        |  |
|   | Poetry: Cecil Day-Lewis  | Theme: Never again                     |

## 2009 -10

Theme: Perspectives on Social Groups

|  |                     |  |                                |
|--|---------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| <i>Working Class Trapped - and Angry</i>                   | Evelyn Waugh        | Scoop (1938)   | Stephen Spender                |
|  | Alan Sillitoe       | Saturday Night and Sunday Morning (1958)                 | Mersey Poets                   |
| <i>Working Class to Uni Lecturer. The meritocracy.</i>     | Kingsley Amis       | Lucky Jim(1954)  | Philip Larkin                  |
| <i>Golden Yesterdays?</i>                                  | Poetry Month        |  | John Betjeman                  |
| <i>The woman's voice heard - around the world</i>          | Margaret Atwood     | The Handmaid's Tale (1985)                               | Carol Ann Duffy                |
| <i>Multiple Disadvantages black/slave/poor and female!</i> | Alice Walker        | The Colour Purple (1982)                                 | Angelou, Walcott, L K Johnson, |
|  | Toni Morrison       | Beloved (1987)   | Soyinka, Zephaniah, Jackie Kay |
| <i>British ethnic minorities look at Britain</i>           | Andrea Levy         | Small Island(2007)                                       | Grace Nichols, Ed. Braithwaite |
| <i>Theme of Strange Lands or Journeys</i>                  | Graham Swift        | Last Orders (2002)                                       |                                |
|  |                     | TS Eliot, Robert Frost, C.Tomlinson, DHLawrence, McGough |                                |
|  | )- A S Byatt        | Possession (1991)  | Ted Hughes                     |
|  | )- Irene Nemirovsky | Suite Francaise (1942/2004)                              | Yevtushenko, Abse              |
|  | )- Ian McEwan       | Atonement (2001)   | Remorse / Regret / Childhood   |
| <i>Will they be Classics?</i>                              | )- K Ishiguro       | Remains of the Day (1989)                                |                                |

## 2010 - 11

India, Russia, USA, South Africa and Australia - an indigenous author + 'an outsider's view'

|                     |                                      |                                       |  |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <i>India</i>        | E.M Forster                          | Passage to India (1924)               | Rudyard Kipling                        |
|                     | Aravind Ariga                        | White Tiger (2008)                    | Rabindranath Tagore (1861-1941)        |
|                     | Poetry Theme (Countries As Homeland) | S Chinmoy, ASJ                        | Tessimond, B Pasternak, S Y/Esenin     |
| <i>Russia</i>       | Short Stories:                       | Chekhov, Tolstoy, Dostoevsky          | A Pushkin, M Lermontov                 |
|                     | Travel Book:                         | Colin Thubron                         | In Siberia (2000)                      |
| <i>USA</i>          | Play:                                | Arthur Miller                         | View From The Bridge (1955)            |
|                     |                                      | Evelyn Waugh                          | The Loved Ones (1948)                  |
| <i>South Africa</i> | J M Coetzee                          | Disgrace (1999)                       | )-Tatamkhulu Afrika, Mzi Mahola,       |
|                     | Alan Paton                           | Cry The Beloved Country(1948)         | )-Gabeba Baderoon, Lionel Abrahams     |
| <i>Australia</i>    | Thomas Keneally                      | The Chant of Jimmie Blacksmith (1972) | Les Murray, Kenneth Slessor            |
|                     | Matthew Kneale                       | The English Passenger (2000)          | Judith Wright, O Noonuccal/Kath Walker |

## 2011 - 12

### European Classics

|         |                    |  |                              |
|---------|--------------------|--|------------------------------|
| France  | Alexander Dumas    | The Count Of Monte Cristo                    | Baudelaire                   |
|         | Guy De Maupassant  | Collected Short Stories                      | Jacques Prevert              |
|         | Gustave Flaubert   | Madame Bovary                                | Love sonnets                 |
|         | Francoise Sagan    | Bonjour Tristesse, A Certain Smile           |                              |
| Ireland | Oscar Wilde        | The Portrait of Dorian Gray                  | Seamus Heaney                |
|         | Eric Newby         | (travel writing), Round Ireland in Low Gear  | Theme: travel/countryside    |
|         | Edna O'Brien       | The Country Girls                            | Carol Ann Duffy              |
|         | Molly Keane        | Time After Time                              | Yeats                        |
| Italy   | Giovanni Boccaccio | The Decameron                                | Petrarch (Sonnets)           |
|         | Pirandello         | (play) Six Characters in Search of an Author |                              |
|         | Umberto Eco        | The Name of the Rose                         | Theme: the rose / mediaeval  |
|         | Guiseppe Lampedusa | The Leopard                                  | Theme: wild animals / summer |

## 2012-2013

### Contrasting Approaches To Writing About Similar Issues/Themes

|  |                       |                           |                               |
|--|-----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <i>Future worlds and political satire</i>                                | George Orwell         | Animal Farm               | Candide [Bernstein]           |
|  | Aldous Huxley         | Brave New World           | Façade                        |
|  | PD James              | Children of Men           | Theme: joy of children        |
|  | Shakespeare           | The Tempest               | Sonnets                       |
| <i>(‘stand-alone’ read)</i>  |                       |                           |                               |
| <i>Realism, and the Differing experiences during the First World War</i> |                       |                           |                               |
|  | Siegried Sassoon      | Memoirs of an Infantryman | not-so-famous War Poets       |
|  | Stella Gibbons        | Cold Comfort Farm         | Masefield                     |
|  | + extracts: Mary Webb | Precious Bane             |                               |
|  | Laurie Lee            | Cider with Rosie          | Edward Thomas                 |
|  | Sebastian Faulkes     | Birdsong                  | War poets: Owen, Sassoon etc. |
| <i>Magical Realism and Politics</i>                                      | Isabel Allende        | House of Spirits          | Pablo Neruda                  |
|  | Graham Greene         | Our Man in Havana         | Poetry: <b>TBA</b>            |
| <i>(Stand-alone read)</i>  | Somerset Maugham      | Of Human Bondage          | Poetry: <b>TBA</b>            |

## 2013-2014

|      |                        |                                   |  |
|------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| 1951 | J D Salinger           | The Catcher in the Rye            | Poetry: Childhood                        |
| 1879 | Ibsen                  | The Doll's House                  | Poetry: Women Poets                      |
| 1985 | Ruth Prawar Jhababvala | Heat and Dust                     | Poetry: John Donne Love and Sex          |
| 1850 | Mark Twain             | Huckleberry Finn                  | Poetry: Roger McGough, Michael Rosen     |
| 1901 | Miles Franklin         | My Brilliant Career               | Poetry: Travel                           |
| 2002 | Sue Monk               | The Secret Life of Bees           | Poetry: Human relationships with Animals |
| 1895 | Thomas Hardy           | Jude the Obscure                  | Poetry: Thomas Hardy                     |
| 1941 | Terrence Rattigan      | The Winslow Boy                   | Poetry: Byron                            |
| 1960 | Harper Lee             | To Kill a Mocking Bird            | Poetry: Walt Whitman                     |
| 1897 | Henry James            | What Maisie Knew                  | Poetry: Robert Frost                     |
| 1999 | Stephen Chbosky        | The Perks of being a Wallflower   | Poetry: Carol Anne Duffy                 |
| 1759 | Lawrence Sterne        | Life and Times of Tristram Shandy | Poetry: Simon Armitage                   |

## 2014 -2015

- |                           |   |   |   |
|---------------------------|---|---|---|
| 1. WAR                    | Vera Britten<br>Ernest Hemingway<br>JG Ballard<br>Joseph Heller | Testament of Youth<br>For Whom the Bell Tolls<br>Empire of the Sun<br>Catch 22            | Poetry: Anthology Scars Upon my Heart<br>Poetry: Lorca + Artist: Picasso's Guernica<br>Poetry: Chinese Haikus<br>Poetry: American War Poets |
| 2. BIOGRAPHIES            | Peter Ustinov<br>Maya Angelou<br>Jung Chang<br>Alan Johnson     | Dear Me<br>I know Why the Caged Bird Sings<br>Wild Swans<br>This Boy, Against The Odds    | Poetry: Maya Angelou<br>Chinese Poetry<br>Poetry: Philip Larkin, Brian Patten, Adrian Henri, Roger McGough                                  |
| 3. POWERFUL/DEVIANT WOMEN | Kate Chopin<br>Toni Morrison<br>Maggie O'Farrell<br>Jean Rhys   | The Awakening<br>The Bluest Eyes<br>The Vanishing Act of Esme Lennox<br>Wide Sargasso Sea | Poetry: Emily Dickinson<br>Women Poets  |

## 2015-2016

Shakespeare (400 centenary), Virginia Woolf, Novels with historic content or settings

|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| Virginia Woolf  | Mrs Dalloway<br>To the Lighthouse<br>(background reading: Jane Dunn, A Close Conspiracy) | Poetry: DH Lawrence - Bavarian Gentians, The Piano<br>Poetry: DH Lawrence -The Snake   |
| Rose Tremain<br>Shakespeare<br>James Shapiro  | Restoration<br>Much Ado About Nothing<br>1599, A Year in the Life of Shakespeare         | Poetry: Andrew Marvell: To His Coy Mistress<br>Play reading/ DVD excerpts/Discussion   |
| Robert Harris<br>Patrick Suskind<br>Shakespeare<br>Robert Graves<br>Joseph Conrad<br>Penelope Fitzgerald<br>Jim Crace | Enigma<br>Perfume<br>Richard III<br>I Claudius<br>Lord Jim<br>The Blue Flower<br>Harvest | Poetry: Shakespeare Sonnets and contemporary poets<br>Poetry: John Betjeman<br>Poetry: Robert Browning: The Laboratory<br>Play reading, DVD and discussion<br>Poetry: Shelley: Ozymandias<br>Poetry: AE Housman: A Shropshire Lad (with music)<br>Poetry: UA Fanthorpe: and Case History<br>Poetry: Ted Hughes: The Jaguar or The Pike |

## 2016 -2017

### **Music and Literature**

|                 |                      |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| Alexandre Dumas | La Dame aux Camelias |
| Vikram Seth     | An Equal Music       |
| Rose Tremain    | Music and Silence    |

### **Poetry:**

|              |                                     |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|
| T.S.Eliot    | Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats |
| Shakespeare  | Songs from Shakespeare              |
| Brian Patten | Song for Last Year's Wife           |

### **Myths**

|                  |                      |
|------------------|----------------------|
| David Mitchell   | Cloud Atlas          |
| Margaret Atwood  | The Penelopiad       |
| Madeleine Miller | The Song of Achilles |

|                      |                          |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| John Keats           | La Belle Dame Sans Merci |
| Alfred Lord Tennyson | Ulysses                  |
| Carol Ann Duffy      | The World's Wife         |
| W.B. Yeats           | The Stolen Child         |

### **Russian Literature**

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| Dostoevsky   | Crime and Punishment                   |
| Tolstoy      | Anna Karenina                          |
| Solzhenitsin | One day in the life of Ivan Denisovich |

|             |                             |
|-------------|-----------------------------|
| Lermontov   | Alone I set out on the road |
| Pushkin     | The Duel [Eugene Onegin]    |
| Yevtushenko | The Schoolmaster            |

## Novel & Autobiography

|                    |  |                |                  |
|--------------------|--|----------------|------------------|
| Aminatta Forna     | The Devil that Danced on the Water     | Phillip Larkin | Whitsun Weddings |
| Aminatta Forna     | The Memory of Love                     | Clive James    | Collected Poems  |
| Jeanette Winterson | Oranges are not the Only Fruit         |                |                  |
|                    | /Why Be Happy When You Could Be Normal | Sylvia Plath   | Ariel            |

## 2017 – 2018

### Booker 2009

|               |                     |                |
|---------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Hilary Mantel | Wolf Hall           | Thomas Wyatt   |
| Adam Foulds   | The Quickening Maze | John Clare     |
| Simon Mawer   | The Glass Room      | Miroslav Holub |

### Baileys 2017

|                 |                            |                                     |
|-----------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Naomi Alderman  | The Power                  | Margaret Atwood                     |
| Ayobami Adebayo | Stay With Me               | African/Nigerian women's poetry     |
| Madelein Thien  | Do Not Say We Have Nothing | 20th century Chinese women's poetry |
|                 |                            | [Asian American voices in poetry ]  |

### Novels in Translation

|                |                          |                                      |
|----------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| David Grossman | A Horse Walks Into a Bar | Mahmoud Darwish - Palestinian poetry |
| Vargas Llosa   | The Bad Girl             | Pablo Neruda                         |

### Play

|  |            |                          |
|--|------------|--------------------------|
| Aristophanes   | Lysistrata | C.P. Cavafy (Greek poet) |
| [Possibilities:<br>Yerma :Lorca, A Cherry Orchard:Chekhov, Huis Clos/ In camera:Sartre, A Glass Menagerie :Tennessee Williams] |            |                          |

### Own Choice

|               |                             |                         |
|---------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Anthony Doerr | All The Light We Cannot See | Milton On His Blindness |
| Helen Dunmore | Exposure                    | Helen Dunmore           |
| Donna Tartt   | The Secret History          | Emily Dickinson         |

## 2018 – 2019

### The Effects of War

|                 |                            |                |
|-----------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| Muriel Spark    | The Girls of Slender Means | Hollie McNish  |
| Penelope Lively | Moon Tiger                 | Maram Al-Masri |
| Rebecca West    | The Return of the Soldier  | Vera Brittain  |

### New Takes on Classics

|                     |                                   |               |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| Jeannette Winterson | The Gap in Time (A Winter's Tale) | Liz Lochhead  |
| Zadie Smith         | On Beauty (Howards End)           | Katie Tempest |
| Jane Smiley         | A Thousand Acres (King Lear)      | Sylvia Plath  |

### Play

|                 |           |
|-----------------|-----------|
| Caryl Churchill | Top Girls |
|-----------------|-----------|

### Women on the Edge

|              |                        |             |
|--------------|------------------------|-------------|
| Joan Lindsay | Picnic at Hanging Rock | Anne Sexton |
|--------------|------------------------|-------------|

Iris Murdoch                      A Severed Head                      Anne Sexton      Jill Morris

**Family Dynamics**

|                |                          |                |
|----------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| Kiran Desai    | The Inheritance of Loss  | Jackie Kay     |
| A.S. Byatt     | The Virgin in the Garden | Stevie Smith   |
| Kamila Shamsie | Home Fires               | Anna Akhmatova |

2019 – 2020

**Prose:**

**Science Fiction**

|                     |                                     |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Isaac Asimov        | Foundations                         |
| Philip Kindred Dick | Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep |

**Poetry:**

**Power and Conflict**

|   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| William Wordsworth                            | The Prelude, excerpts |
| Lord Byron, John Scott, Alfred, Lord Tennyson |                       |

**Contemporary Literature**

|             |                       |   |
|-------------|-----------------------|---|
| Amor Towles | A Gentleman in Moscow | Carol Ann Duffy, Carol Rumens, Beatrice Garland |
| Monica Ali  | Brick Lane            | Wilfred Owen, Simon Armitage, Jane Weir         |

**Fiction for Young People**

|                |                 |                           |
|----------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| Philip Pullman | Northern Lights | Seamus Heaney, Ted Hughes |
|----------------|-----------------|---------------------------|

**Crime Classics**

|                 |               |
|-----------------|---------------|
| Agatha Christie | The Mousetrap |
|-----------------|---------------|

**Love and Relationships**

|               |                  |   |
|---------------|------------------|---|
| John le Carre | A Delicate Truth | Christopher Marlowe, Sir Walter Raleigh, Andrew Marvell |
|---------------|------------------|---|

**General World-wide Classics from 17th to first half of 20th centuries.**

|                     |                      |   |
|---------------------|----------------------|---|
| Edith Wharton       | The Age of Innocence | Lord Byron, Percy Bysshe Shelley            |
| F. Scott Fitzgerald | The Great Gatsby     | Robert Browning, Elizabeth Barrett Browning |

**Classics with a traditional appeal to boys/men**

|                         |                         |  |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Ernest Miller Hemingway | The Old Man and the Sea | Emily Dickinson, Charlotte Mew                 |
| John Fowles             | The Collector           | Thomas Hardy, Cecil Day Lewis, Charles Causley |
| Robert Harris           | Officer and a Spy       | Philip Larkin, Simon Armitage, Carol Ann Duffy |