

Write Fiction For *The "Friend"*

**New
venues!**

Dream of being a published author? Whether you're a complete beginner or already have some experience, you'll enjoy every minute of our hands-on story writing workshop.



SHIRLEY BLAIR is Fiction Editor of the "Friend" and is also a published author in her own right. She loves to help promising new writers develop their skills and can call on over forty years' experience in magazine fiction to help you achieve success.



HELEN YENDALL has been writing short fiction for over 20 years and was delighted to win our competition last year, with her first attempt at a serial. She's taught creative writing since 2009. Her top tip is to get the first draft of your story down as quickly as possible.



KATE BLACKADDER remembers the thrill of her first "Friend" story being published in 2006. Her favourite part of the writing process is when she feels her characters coming to life and their story begins to take shape. Her top tip is to read your work aloud.



LYDIA JONES is the published author of over 250 women's magazine short stories and serials. She describes successful writing as a cocktail of passion, pragmatism and self-discipline, but above all a belief in your characters and the story they want to tell.

The People's Friend Story Writing Workshop

Please complete this coupon and send it to **The People's Friend Story Workshop, 80 Kingsway East, Dundee DD4 8SL.**

Event	Price	No	Total
Short story writing workshop, Bristol: September 7	£70		
Short story writing workshop, Dundee: September 15	£75		
Short story writing workshop, York: September 22	£70		
Short story writing workshop, Manchester: September 26	£70		
Grand Total £			

I enclose a **cheque/postal order** made payable to **D.C. Thomson & Co., Ltd.**, for the sum of £

(Please write your name and address clearly on the back of your cheque; non-refundable if you cancel.)

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Special Dietary Requirements

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For Your Information

To book, fill in the coupon and send it, with your cheque or postal order, to the address shown. Places are allocated on a first come, first served basis. All attendees will be sent a letter confirming their booking. The workshops will be held at

● **Bristol (Shirley & Helen):** Premier Inn Bristol Cribbs Causeway, Catbrain Lane, Cribbs Causeway, Bristol BS10 7TQ.

● **Dundee (Shirley and Kate):** DC Thomson & Co., Ltd., 80 Kingsway East, Dundee DD4 8SL. ● **York (Shirley & Kate):** Premier Inn, 20 Blossom Street North, York YO24 1AJ.

● **Manchester (Shirley & Lydia):** Premier Inn Manchester Central (GMEX), Bishopsgate 7-11 Lower Mosley Street, Manchester M2 3DW. **A sandwich lunch will be provided at the Dundee venue only. Tickets £75 for Dundee, £70 for Bristol, York and Manchester.**

● Visit www.superbreak.com/peoplesfriend or call **01904 436030**, quoting ref **HB794**, for great rail and hotel deals for your workshop trip.

Your Day

10 a.m. Introductions

10.30 a.m. Talk: Shirley Blair on writing for the "Friend"

11.30 a.m. Break

11.45 a.m. Talk: guest author on where to find inspiration and how to develop ideas

12.30 a.m. Exercise: Themes

LUNCH BREAK 1 till 2.

2.00 p.m. Exercise: Creating strong characters

2.30 p.m. Talk: guest author on structuring your story

3.15 p.m. Break

3.30 p.m. Talk: nuts and bolts and practical tips

4.15 p.m. Questions

4.30 p.m. Finish