



What **Workshops** are available at the NWR National Conference?

Wow, have we got some stars lined up for you. To add to our excellent three keynote speakers, Dame Julia Kenny, Corin Robinson and Clare Nasir, we have 8 amazing workshops.

Difficult choice? You just might want to go to them all!

Here is some extra information to help you to decide on your choice of workshop.

	Workshop Title	Workshop Leader	Description
1	Arts and Crafts: Images of Steel	Sue Pontefract	Sue is a highly qualified and very experienced art teacher/tutor. She has exhibited her own work in galleries across the country. Since "retirement" Sue has been drawing and painting, specialising in still life using oil, acrylic and watercolour. She holds regular exhibitions in her own home. No experience is necessary to join and enjoy this Workshop.
2	Book Group: Black Diamonds by Catherine Bailey	Tina Wakefield	The workshop will be led by Tina, an experienced international facilitator. The talk and discussion will be based on the book Black Diamonds by Catherine Bailey . The book tells the story of aristocratic life at Wentworth Woodhouse over the centuries and the contrasting lives of their miners. If possible, please read the book before the workshop.
3	Creative Writing: Very Short Stories	Jan Ellen	Since retiring Jan has developed her interest in writing. She has published a book of flash fiction. This book will be offered to Workshop members. She has also completed her memoir and is currently writing a novel. The Workshop will consist of a series of writing exercises both individually and in groups - some of which will hopefully be published in the NWR magazine in the autumn.

4	Drama: All Made Up	Rachel Thorn and Alex Keen	Join award-winning performers and improvisation teachers, Rachel E Thorn and Alex Keen, for drama games. Rachel and Alex ran the Drama Workshop at our NWR Conference at Birmingham in 2021. They run workshops all over the country and their comedy shows have won awards including Best Improv Show at Edinburgh Fringe. No experience necessary to join this workshop. It will get your creative juices flowing and is guaranteed to be good fun.
5	Meet the Author: Women of Steel	Michelle Rawlins	Michelle Rawlins is an international award-winning journalist, author and teacher at the University of Sheffield. She has worked for national newspapers, women's magazines and digital platforms for over 25 years, as well as writing six books. 'Women Of Steel', a non-fiction book, was published in 2020, and tells the stories of the real-life women who worked in Sheffield's steel industry during World War Two. Following its success, Michelle has been commissioned Michelle to write a series of fictional novels based on the same women. The workshop will focus on the importance of preserving oral history.
6	From Sheffield Steel to Sustainable Solutions: A Material Science Revolution	Colleen Mann	Join Dr Colleen Mann for a fascinating exploration of material science and discover how it impacts every aspect of our daily lives! This lecture will delve into the hidden world of materials, from the everyday (like the stainless steel cutlery) to the cutting edge (like the self-cleaning windows of tomorrow). Together we will explore: Material properties, The science behind the magic and Steel's hidden presence. This engaging lecture is perfect for anyone curious about the world around them and the science that makes it possible. Come and discover the everyday hero: Steel!
7	Singing: Joyful Singing	Helen Cowen	Helen is a very experienced Choir Leader and has always worked in Music Education at school and university levels. This workshop is open to everyone and all ranges of experience. If you have no experience of singing in a group it might whet your appetite. If you are a choir regular come and enjoy an hour of singing.
8	Walk: Exploring the History of the Sheffield Canal Basin	Ann Clegg	The Workshop will be led by Ann, an experienced walker and enthusiastic local historian. On the walk she will explain how the canal has undergone many changes since the mid 19thC, when it was a thriving inland port. The route will take you past the old buildings, finding out about their contribution to Sheffield's industrial past. This workshop will be weather dependent.