HELEN BURKE has been writing and performing poetry for forty years. Widely published in magazines and anthologies which include Oxford Magazine, Rialto, New Welsh Review, Iota, South, Domestic Cherry, Homeless Diamonds, Dreamcatcher, Other Poetry, the Hollywood online zine Magazine and others. She performs her work both in the U.K. and abroad – reading in Paris, New York and Rhode Island as well as London and closer to home Leeds and Manchester, as well as solo show at Edinburgh. Her work is translated into French , Dutch , Romanian and soon into Italian too. Her collection “The Ruby Slippers” is available from Valley Press and Amazon ; her 2nd collection “Here’s Looking At You, Kid” from Valley Press is available later this year. Her children’s story “Tales of the Green Field” will be in ITALIAN next year. Winner of the Manchester Prize, the Suffolk, Ilkley Performance, Sheffield Poetstar, Devon and Dorset, Southport Comedy, and Torbay. She is also a visual artist and fabric designer and has exhibited artwork in the south of France. She hosts a show regularly of poetry and music on East Leeds FM Radio, and holds an M.A. in Literature Studies.

ROSE DREW was reading at three, writing at six and performing at age ten. Rose is an anthropologist as well as a poet and is studying for PhD in Winchester. Her writing themes are fairness , motherhood,sex, death, religion and love. Her work has appeared in newsprint , books, magazines and on-line forums. She reads with passion, cynicism and a sense of humour. For over eleven years Rose and her partner Alan Gillott have run a monthly poetry open mic for two and a half years in America and since January 2006 in York, England – this event is called Spoken Word and is just now on its 100th show. She co-runs Stairwell Books in York with her partner – in which they publish both poetry and novels as well as Dreamcatcher the literary journal.

ALAN GILLOTT – is poet, writer, composer amd singer who performs in the U.K. and USA and is well known throughout the North East. His most recent book is Beyond the Window (Fighting Cock Press) he has a following as a music and art critic and is known for his lyrical style based on internal structures. His observational poetry often highlights injustice and institutional irresponsibility. Alan acted as Choirmaster at a number of churches and has sung with London Welsh Choir, the London Symphony Orchestra Chorus, and at the Catholic basilicas in Brooklyn and Washington DC. He is editor for Stairwell Books which publishes Dreamcatcher an international literary journal.

TANYA NIGHTINGALE – performs her poetry regularly around the city of YORK (invented by the Romans !) Her work has been published in magazines including Poetry Nottingham , Orbis, Other Poetry and Dreamcatcher , for which she is also a regular reviewer. She won the Yorkshire Open Poetry Competition in 2008 and the Ryedale Poetry Competition in 2013. Her poetry has been part of International Women’s Week, and her two woman show “She’s The Cultured One” (with Rose Drew) was performed at Edinburgh Festival Fringe and the Malton Literature Festival. Ms. Nightingale (subject of an Ode by Keats, for which she still hasn’t received any royalties,) is delighted to be performing at his house.

ROBERT NIGHTINGALE – his offbeat and finely-crafted and often downright questionable songs, have impressed audiences from the Edinburgh Fringe to the London Palladium. He is the author of the musicals Faust, Princess Ambrosia, The Saga of King Olaf, John Giovanni and Dreams, and he is currently re-writing the Bible as a musical. He lives in York where he has just performed at York Literature Festival with Roger McGough.