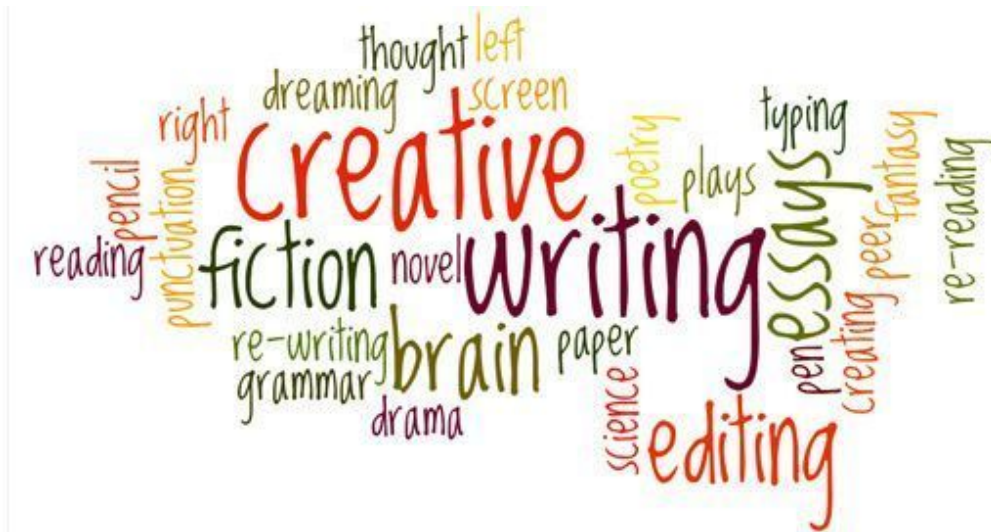




# Darren Harper's Creative Writing Break February 2022



## WRITING FICTION

From Sunday the 20th of February until the  
morning of Thursday the 24th of February 2022

A residential creative writing course aimed at both beginning and intermediate writers interested in flash fiction, short stories, novellas or the novel. Consisting of lectures, writing exercises and individual tutorials, enjoy uninterrupted writing time in a beautiful rural retreat. In addition to taught sessions on 'structure', 'character' and 'symbolism', Darren will provide you with short stories to discuss, and therefore help develop your own writing style.

**The Green Park Hotel, Clunie Bridge Road, Pitlochry, Perthshire, PH16 5JY**  
**TELEPHONE: 01796 473248 FAX: 01796 473520**  
**E MAIL: [bookings@thegreenpark.co.uk](mailto:bookings@thegreenpark.co.uk)**  
**WEB: [www.thegreenpark.co.uk](http://www.thegreenpark.co.uk)**

# Creative Writing Break

## Sunday the 20th of February

So as to make the most of your day, please feel free to arrive at any time from mid-morning onwards. Complimentary tea, coffee, cakes, and biscuits will be available in our lounges every day from early each morning.

### At 6.00pm.

The first organised activity will be a sherry reception to be held in this year's Philosophy room - **room 59 on the ground floor of the Tower Wing**. This will give you the opportunity to meet your hosts from the Green Park and Darren Harper, as well as your fellow guests. Darren will go on to outline his plans for the following days.

### From 6.30pm - 8.30pm.

A four course dinner will be served in the dining-room, followed by coffee and shortbread in the main lounges.

## Monday the 21st of February

### 8.00am - 9.45am.

A full Scottish breakfast will be served in the dining-room.

### 10.00am - 12.00 noon.

### ***Intoduction: The Writer's Notebook - writing exercises.***

Each day a lunch will be served in the dining room. This lunch will be available between 12.30 and 1.30pm.

**Those not on the philosophy course are welcome to join you for lunch as well, and the cost of any lunches they take with you will just be added to their final account.**

### 2.00pm - 4.00pm.

### ***Taught Session: Structure - writing exercises.***

### From 6.00pm.

A pre-dinner Sherry reception in the main lounge.

### From 6.30pm - 8.30pm.

A four course dinner will be served in the dining room, followed by coffee and shortbread in the main lounge.

# Creative Writing Break

## Tuesday the 22nd of February

**8.00am - 9.45am.**

A full Scottish breakfast will be served in the dining-room.

**10.00am - 12.00 noon.**

***Discussion: Previous day's writing and short story.***

***Taught session: Character - writing exercises.***

A buffet lunch will be served in the dining room between 12.30 and 1.30pm.

**2.00pm - 4.00pm.**

***Writing time and individual tutorials.***

**From 6.00pm.**

A pre-dinner Sherry reception in the main lounge.

**From 6.30pm - 8.30pm.**

A four course dinner will be served in the dining room, followed by coffee and shortbread in the main lounge.

## Wednesday the 23rd of February

**8.00am - 9.45am.**

A full Scottish breakfast will be served in the dining-room.

**10.00am - 12.00 noon.**

***Discussion: Previous day's writing and short story.***

***Taught session: Symbolism - writing exercises.***

A buffet lunch will be served in the dining room between 12.30 and 1.30pm.

**2.00pm - 4.00pm.**

***Taught session: Editing - individual tutorials.***

**6.00pm for 6.30pm.**

Darren will host an informal bucks-fizz reception in the **main lounge**. Everyone will have downed tools by now, and this is an excellent opportunity to unwind and enjoy the company of your compatriots.

A four course dinner will then be served in the dining room, followed by coffee and shortbread in the main lounge.

# Creative Writing Break

## Thursday the 24th of February

**8.00am - 9.45am.**

A full Scottish breakfast will be served in the dining room.

**The McMenemie Family and everyone at the Green Park  
hope that you will have enjoyed your stay with us,  
and that you have a safe journey home.**

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The cost of the 2022 Four Night Creative Writing Break  
is £466.00 per person.

This amount includes the entire package as described in this programme, and there is no supplementary charge for single accommodation.

**If you wish to travel to Pitlochry by coach or rail, we will arrange for transport between Pitlochry Station and the Green Park, for both your day of arrival and your day of departure. This transport will be complimentary.**

**Guests wanting to stay before or after the break would be charged at our early season rate of £109.00 per person per night, for dinner bed and breakfast.**



# Darren Harper - in his own words

## BA (Hons), PGCE

A child of the seventies, it wasn't until 2008 that I returned to academic study, having ventured around a little of the world whilst serving in the Royal Navy between 1998 and 2003, and then setting up and running my own business. Not really knowing who I was or what I wanted from life, I discovered adult education, which satisfied a growing and unquenchable thirst for knowledge and culture. My loves grew to be philosophy, literature and creative writing. My ambition having become to gain a degree in a subject which impassioned me, I enrolled to do an Access to Higher Education course at my local college. Achieving a distinction in English Literature, I subsequently applied to do a degree in English and Creative Writing at the University of Cumbria, and in 2012 graduated with first class honours. During my time at university, I also began writing theatre reviews; theatre becoming one of my major passions during my studies. Whilst there, I also won a prize for a short story I had written as well as having one of my own plays shortlisted with a theatre company.

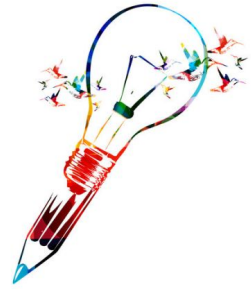
In trying to find a way in which I could combine my own love of learning with meeting the responsibilities of life, I decided to become a teacher. Completing my PGCE at the University of Central Lancashire, I then returned to my local college as a teacher, where I was fortunate enough not only to teach GCSE English, but also A Levels in both English Literature and Creative Writing. My appetite still not fully satiated, and upon the retiral of my most inspiring teacher, Michael Travers, I began to offer my own adult education classes in Philosophy and Literature, both at Carlisle Adult Education and the wonderful residential college that is Higham Hall in Cockermouth. I now teach also at Dillington House In Somerset and Knuston House in Northamptonshire.

Fortune has favoured me once more, as has a beautiful and selfless wife, and I have recommenced my studies, this time at the University of Cumbria where I am doing my PhD. I have also established The Philosophical & Literary Society, both in Carlisle, Cumbria and Hexham, Northumberland.



# Darren Harper's 2022 Creative Writing Break

From Sunday 20th of February, until the  
morning of Thursday 24th of February 2022



NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

POSTCODE \_\_\_\_\_ TEL. NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF ROOM / ROOMS REQUIRED

TWIN \_\_\_\_\_ DOUBLE \_\_\_\_\_ SINGLE \_\_\_\_\_

Please reserve the above accommodation in my name.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_.

The cost of the Creative Writing Break is £466.00 per person.

This amount includes the entire package as described in this programme, and there is no supplementary charge for single accommodation.

**If you wish to travel to Pitlochry by coach or rail, we will arrange for complimentary transport between Pitlochry Station and the Green Park, for both your day of arrival and your day of departure.**

**Guests wanting to stay any extra nights before or after the art break would be charged at our low season rate of £109.00 per person per night, for dinner bed and breakfast.**

