

Welcome to this year's Festival of Debate. This programme has been put together by many hands. A sincere thank you to all those who have taken the time, and special thanks to Geo Law for designing this year's joyous front cover.

This year's festival is about us navigating a moment in time that is both a beginning and an ending.

We are often led to believe that the decisions or actions we must take lead us between two contradictory positions. Richer or poorer, left or right, sustainability or growth, optimism or fear. Yet the decisions or actions we need to take as a society are not binary – we live in an interlinked and complex world.

This festival is not trying to sell you anything, but it is trying to create a brave space to hold that complexity and the uncertainty that comes with it. A space where we can unwind the threads of history that have led us to this moment, share our respective lived experiences and use those moments of understanding to lay the foundations of what we will have to build.

The signs that an old world is ending, or must end – are all around us. Humans have lived through this many times before and the beginnings of what will come are already here and emerging. We must find a new way of doing things that allows space for everyone to bring their talents and their energy while acknowledging the very real planetary boundaries within which we find ourselves. This work will need all of us.

We hope you will join the conversation.

Festival of Debate



www.weareopus.org
www.festivalofdebate.com



>>> Coordinated by Opus, Festival of Debate is a non-partisan programme of events that asks us to explore the most important social, economic, environmental and political issues of the day.

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>>> TICKETS & ACCESSIBILITY

Tickets for Festival of Debate events are mostly available through our main ticket outlet Eventbrite. To buy tickets for paid events or to sign up to attend free events visit festivalofdebate.com, click 'Events' and find the relevant link. All paid ticket prices are subject to a booking fee.

A guide to this year's venues can be found at the back of this brochure. >>>>>>

If you have any questions regarding ticketing, accessibility or how to get to venues, please email hello@festivalofdebate.com.

Festival of Debate is a non-partisan politics festival run in collaboration with over 50 organisations and featuring over 100 individual speakers. As such, the views and opinions expressed during the festival are those of the speakers, and do not necessarily reflect the views or positions of the festival, or any of our partner organisations.

Festival of Debate is a broad, open, public debate programme which anyone can join but we do not pretend to be representative of all viewpoints. Festival of Debate is against discrimination and harassment of all kinds.

This year the festival has been programmed to explore three core questions:



How can we respond to the climate crisis and biosphere collapse?



How should our society overcome inequalities of race, gender, sexuality, income and disability?



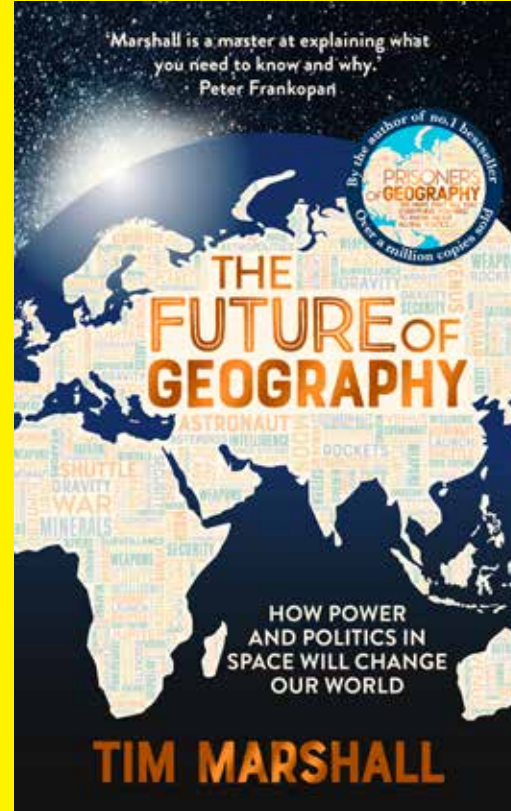
How can we reimagine our citizenship and our democracy?



NO ONE
IS
LEGAL



THE HOUSING CRISIS: WITH KWAJO TWENEBOA |
Thu 13 April | Sheffield Students' Union



TIM MARSHALL ON THE FUTURE OF GEOGRAPHY |
Mon 24 April | Sheffield Central Library



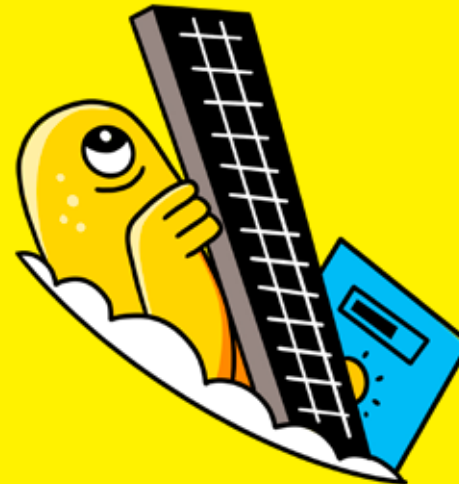
CAN MIGRANT WOMEN SPEAK IN SHEFFIELD? |
Wed 19 April | Union St



STRAIGHT TO THE FACTS: IN CONVERSATION WITH WILL MOY | Sat 15 April | Union St



THE BLUE COMMONS: WITH GUY STANDING | Fri 28 April | The Circle - Conference Room



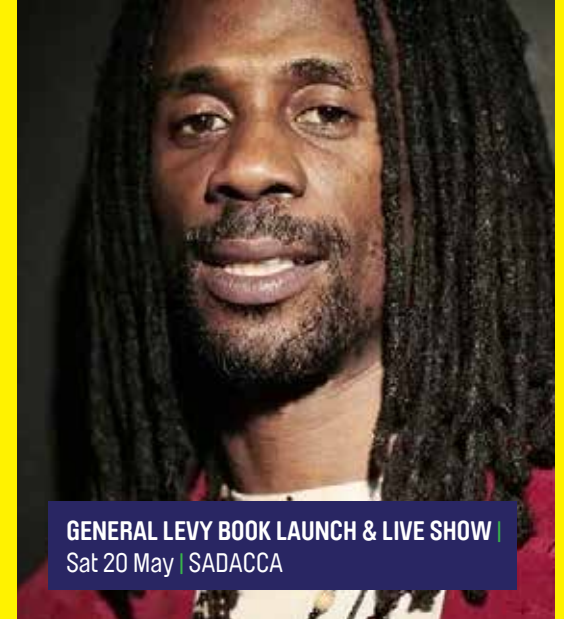
IN CONVERSATION WITH BRIAN ENO |
Mon 1 May | Leadmill



GARY YOUNG: DISPATCHES FROM THE DIASPORA | Thu 4 May | Showroom Workstation – Creative Lounge



IN CONVERSATION WITH PROFESSOR DAVID NUTT | Tue 16 May | Leadmill



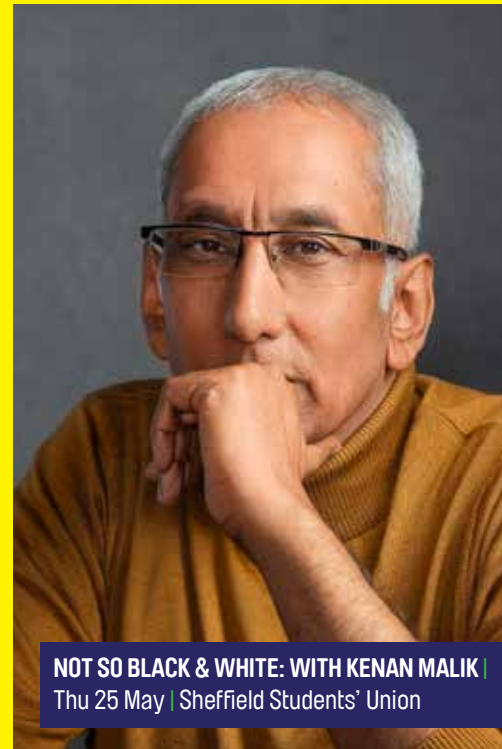
GENERAL LEVY BOOK LAUNCH & LIVE SHOW | Sat 20 May | SADACCA



REBEL BODIES: A GUIDE TO THE GENDER HEALTH GAP REVOLUTION | Tue 9 May | The Circle – Conference Room



HOSPICING MODERNITY WITH VANESSA DE OLIVEIRA ANDREOTTI | Wed 10 May | Online



NOT SO BLACK & WHITE: WITH KENAN MALIK | Thu 25 May | Sheffield Students' Union



WIKILEAKS & ITS ENEMIES: STEFANIA MAURIZI & STELLA ASSANGE | Fri 26 May | Leadmill



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IF YOU ARE A COMMUNITY GROUP WORKING TO EMPOWER AND ENABLE YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD OR YOUR COMMUNITY WHERE YOU ARE, THIS IS FOR YOU.

IT'S A MOVEMENT TO CREATE REAL DEMOCRACY IN EVERY COMMUNITY AND A REAL SHIFT IN POWER TO LOCAL PEOPLE ACROSS THE UK.

WE BELIEVE EVERYONE HAS A UNIQUE CONTRIBUTION TO MAKE TO THEIR COMMUNITY AND THAT PEOPLE MUST HAVE MORE POWER TO MAKE DECISIONS ON THE ISSUES THAT AFFECT THEM AT EVERY LEVEL.

BY COMING TOGETHER, SHARING WHAT WORKS AND WHAT DOESN'T, WE CAN SUPPORT EACH OTHER TO FLOURISH.

FIND OUT MORE AND GET IN TOUCH AT [NEIGHBOURHOODEMOCRACY.ORG](https://neighbourhooddemocracy.org)

SUPPORTED BY





PEOPLE, POLITICIANS & THE CLIMATE

Thu 13 April | 6-7pm | Online | Donations

In partnership with Hope for the Future

How can influencing politicians strengthen the climate movement? Join Hope for the Future for an online discussion exploring how we can influence our politicians to take fair, timely and decisive action on climate change. The panel of speakers, including Sarah Jordan (Hope for the Future), Clare Farrell (Extinction Rebellion, XR) and Chantelle Lunt (Merseyside Black Lives Matter and Merseyside Alliance for Race Equality), will delve into different approaches for enacting social change.



THE HOUSING CRISIS: IN CONVERSATION WITH KWAJO TWENEBOA

Thu 13 April | 7:30-9pm | Sheffield Students' Union - Nelson Mandela Auditorium | £9 / £6

Kwajo Tweneboa uses social media to give a voice to housing tenants and expose the derelict living conditions that many are forced to endure. After publicly shaming his own housing association into carrying out repairs on his family's flat, Kwajo travels the country doing the same for others. He recently fronted a *Channel 4* documentary and has been featured on the *BBC* and *ITV News*, and in *The Guardian*.



VERBS NOT NOUNS: SCAFFOLDING ALTERNATIVE FUTURES

Fri 14 April | 10-11:30am | Online | Donations

In partnership with Dark Matter Labs

Language is a critical part of how we see, understand, and consequently shape and inhabit the world. Indigenous languages, like Anishinaabemowin, are 80% verb-based, framing the world through interrelationships. In contrast, noun-based languages, like English, tend to commodify and categorise, and erase the dynamic flows of our world. So what would it mean to learn to see everything as a verb? Could verb-based languages help us find active agency in shaping alternative futures?



PARTICIPATE IN SHAPING SHEFFIELD CITY GOALS

Sat 15 April | 11am-1pm | Heeley Trust | Donations

In partnership with City Goals

Our city can be a place where everyone lives well and takes care of each other. But it takes each and every one of us to make that happen. Living or working in Heeley or Gleadless? Join us to participate in a facilitated workshop to shape what our city stands for, what we want our city to be now and in the future, and what we want to do together to build our **legacy**. Lunch provided.

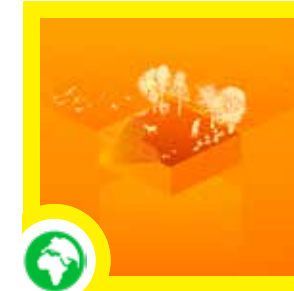


STRAIGHT TO THE FACTS: IN CONVERSATION WITH WILL MOY

Sat 15 April | 5-6:30pm | Union St - One Space | £2

In partnership with the University of Sheffield

In the wake of a spate of high-profile fake news stories, calls for fact-checking have reached new heights, but can fact-checking really save public debate? At this event, Will Moy, Chief Executive of *Full Fact*, shares his insight to consider whether public debate is condemned to be inherently unhealthy, or whether fact-checking can restore democratic debate.



WHO OWNS THE LAND?

Mon 17 April | 5:30-7pm | Online | Donations

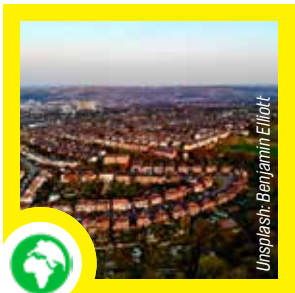
In partnership with Dark Matter Labs

Property rights are increasingly recognised as a structural problem and one of the root causes of the crises of climate change, biodiversity and inequality. These powerful legal fictions have added layers of abstraction, removing co-existence and care from how we 'own' and allocate resources. If deep-rooted reform is necessary, do we need to move beyond land and property ownership rights entirely? And if so, what would a world beyond property look like?



“We have no other spare or replacement planet. We have only this one, and we have to take action.”

Berta Caceres



TACKLING INEQUITY IN ACCESS TO NATURE ACROSS THE CITY

Tue 18 April | 6–8pm | Quaker Meeting House | Donations

In partnership with Kids Plant Trees

The benefits of spending time outdoors in nature include reduced stress, improved physical health and connection with others. However, not everyone is able to do so easily or regularly. What impact is this having on us, our children and communities? Join us as we explore barriers to accessing nature, particularly for those in areas of higher deprivation, Black and ethnic minority communities, people with disabilities, women and children – and how we can overcome them.

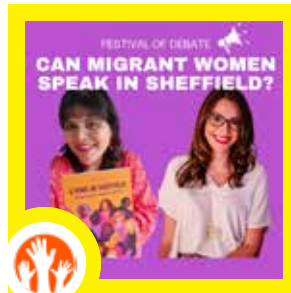


OUR BROKEN POLITICS: HOW CAN WE REBUILD OUR DEMOCRACY?

Tue 18 April | 7–9pm | Central United Reform Church | Donations

In partnership with Sheffield For Democracy

How can we prevent a government that was elected on a minority of votes, from steering our politics towards empowering and privileging the elite, and undermining the principles of equal rights, equal participation and equal opportunities? The rights of everyone to participate equally are being undermined: we need a major rethink in how our democratic system is structured.



CAN MIGRANT WOMEN SPEAK IN SHEFFIELD?

Wed 19 April | 6–7:30pm | Union St – One Space | Donations

In partnership with Living in Sheffield

An interactive discussion between two migrant women living in Sheffield – journalist and writer Livia Barreira and Dr. Patricia Nabuco Martuscelli – on the challenges of and opportunities for empowering migrant women in Sheffield. The starting point will be Livia's book *Living in Sheffield: Our Journeys as Migrant Women*, in which she promotes the positive impact of diversity and migration by sharing eight stories of female migrants settled in Sheffield.



TALES OF HOPE: REGENERATIVE SOCIETY OR PERMACRISIS?

Fri 21 April | 7:30–9:30pm | Quaker Meeting House | £3 / Donations

In partnership with Tintagel House Sheffield Ltd

Regenerative society is emerging, amidst the current permacrisis. How do we activate positive change? How do we re-imagine a human, planet-centred – not profit-centred – society? This talk will: share tales of hope; analyse what blocks regenerative solutions; describe the emerging “new story” of a free, equal, mutual and regenerative society, drawing on Rudolf Steiner’s alternative to both Marx and ‘the market; and identify inspiring growing points for regenerating culture, politics, business and our connection with nature.



SELF-AWARENESS: AN ACT OF COMMUNITY

Sat 22 April | 10am–12pm | The Woodland Discovery Centre – Ecclesall Woods | Donations

In partnership with Julie Mitchell & Sisterhood Social

In her book *How We Heal*, author Alex Elle proposes that healing and self-care are acts of community care. Join us to consider how self-awareness can support emotional healing and lead us to greater compassion for ourselves, for each other, and for the world in which we live. We shall explore how woodland walking, as a means to ‘self-soothe’, encourages us to think about who we are in relation to the rest of nature.



EVERYDAY LIFE AS A KNOT OF FLOWS: CONVERSATIONS ALONG THE RIVER DON

Sat 22 April | 10am–2pm | Kelham Island Industrial Museum Courtyard – Brearley Room | Donations

In partnership with Don Catchment Rivers Trust, Dark Matter Labs & The River Dôn Project

Sheffield sits at the meeting point of five rivers, including the River Don. They are sometimes taken for granted, but the river sits at the heart of multiple interlinked systems. In this in-person experience of the river, Don Catchment Rivers Trust will engage with members of the public to uncover the various relationships and agents that are part of the river, and help us reconceive the river as not a bounded object, but networks of interactions.

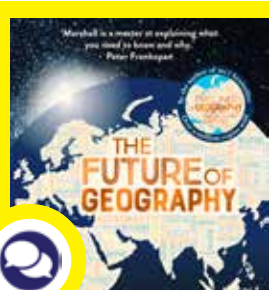


EVERYDAY LIFE AS A KNOT OF FLOWS: COLLECTIVE MAPPING FOR RIVER DON

Sat 22 April | 2:15-3:45pm | Kelham Island Industrial Museum Courtyard – Brearley Room | Donations

In partnership with Dark Matter Labs & The River Dôn Project

To facilitate planetary balance, a thriving environment, and a regenerative economy, we may need to shift from seeing our world through objecthood (fixed, nouns) to interdependence (fluid, verbs). What if we could see the River Don as a civic agent through the lens of interconnected value flows, in balance and reciprocity? What kinds of methods can we (re)design to recognise and govern our entanglement, to move towards commoning and stewardship?



TIM MARSHALL ON THE FUTURE OF GEOGRAPHY

Mon 24 April | 6:30-7:30pm | Sheffield Central Library | Donations

Weaponized satellites. Drilling for rare metals on the Moon. People arriving on Mars within the next decade. What happens in space in the coming years will revolutionise life on Earth. In this special event, Tim Marshall, the internationally bestselling author of *Prisoners of Geography*, will explore how politics and geography are as important in the skies as on the ground, covering great-power rivalry; technology; combat in space; and what it all means for us down on Earth.



RAGE AGAINST THE MACHINE: YOUNG PEOPLE & POLITICAL POWER

Tue 25 April | 6-7:45pm | Leadmill | Donations

In partnership with Sheffield Futures

Politicians, professionals and activists join this panel debate and Q&A to explore power as a young person within the current political climate. Where does voting apathy stem from? What do the new protest bills mean for activism? How can young people remain optimistic and empowered? Hosted and chaired by Sheffield Futures' Young Advisors, the debate will be insightful and relevant, exploring the youth experience of politics leading up to the local elections in May.



SHEFFIELD'S LOCAL ELECTIONS: CLIMATE & NATURE HUSTINGS

Tue 25 April | 7-8:30pm | Online | Donations

In partnership with South Yorkshire Climate Alliance, Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust & Hope for the Future

In May 2023, people across Sheffield will be able to vote in the local elections. Sheffield City Council declared a climate emergency in 2019 and an ecological emergency in 2021. This online event takes the form of a hustings, which gives you the opportunity to meet the candidates running in the local elections and ask how, if elected, they will prioritise the issue of climate change and the environment.



MODELLING THE FUTURE RIGHTS OF NATURE IN SOUTH YORKSHIRE

Wed 26 April | 6-7:30pm | Old Post Hall | Donations

In partnership with Sheffield Hallam University & The River Dôn Project

Join us for a panel event and open space discussion exploring how our relationships with critical commons such as waterways, green spaces and trees need to change as we collectively respond to the challenges of climate breakdown and transition. This event will be led by provocations from thought leaders, community organisers and academics working in related fields and exploring questions of other-than-human citizenship, and the role of arts and culture in shifting our relationship with the natural world.



THE BLUE COMMONS: WITH GUY STANDING

Fri 28 April | 7-8:30pm | The Circle – Conference Room | £6 / £4

Who owns the sea? In the past half century, the sea has been subject to the greatest enclosure in history, generating such economic activity that were it a country it would already be the world's sixth largest economy. Join economist and Professorial Research Associate at SOAS University of London, Guy Standing, for the launch of his book *The Blue Commons*, and explore a progressive strategy that would revive the blue commons, reverse environmental decay and reduce inequalities. "This is a powerful, visionary book – essential reading for all who yearn for a better world" – Jason Hickel.





It's often the small things that make the biggest difference to our experience of life and death.

By harnessing the power of compassion we will create a happier and healthier Sheffield.

compassionate-sheffield.co.uk

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Small things, **BIG DIFFERENCE**

We all experience death, and yet we can find it hard to talk about. By deepening our understanding of death, we can learn what really matters in life.

Throughout May there are a series of free community events to help explore why **dying matters.**

WISHES FULFILLED:

Performance and Q&A

Fri 5 May, 2-4pm, The Arbourthorne Centre

Sun 21 May, 2.30-4.30pm, The Pavilion, Hillsborough

CIRCLE OF LIFE IN NATURE:

Outdoor family activity

Sat 6 May, 10am-12 and 1-3pm, Gleadless Scout Hut

GRIEF WRITERS: Meet-up

Sun 7 May, 2-4pm, The Writers Workshop

SONGS AND MEMORIES: Workshop

Mon 8 May, 11am-1pm, Shipshape Health and Wellbeing Centre

THE GIFT: Film and Q&A

Tue 9 and Wed 10 May, 8-9.30pm, Samuel Worth Chapel, Sheffield General Cemetery

WHEN SEASONS CHANGE: Walk

Sun 14 May, 10.30am-12noon, Sheffield General Cemetery

DEATH CAFE: Discussion

Tue 16 May, 2-3.30pm, Dore and Totley United Reformed Church

DYING MATTERS: Open mic

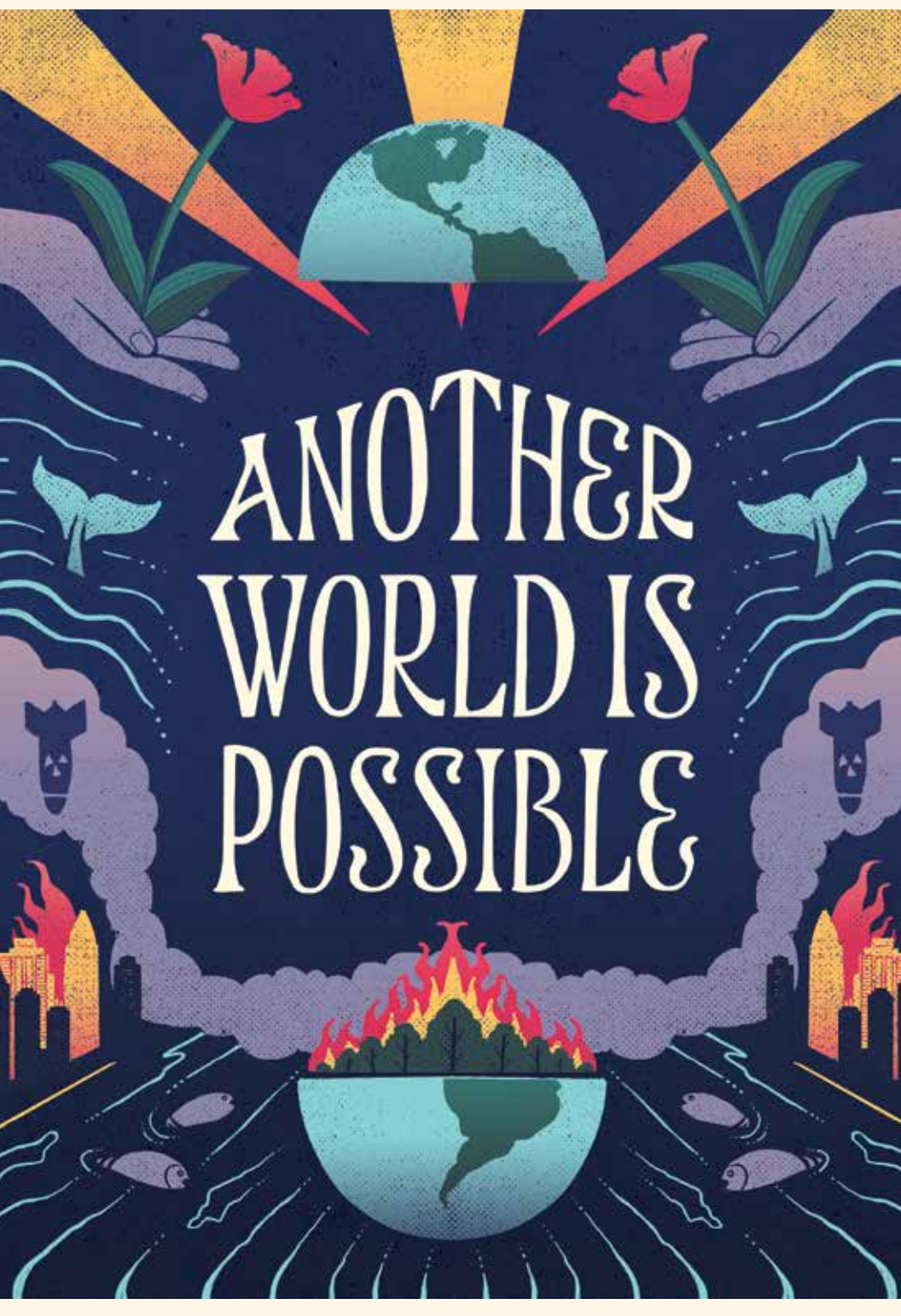
Sat 20 May, 7-9pm, Common Ground Community Centre

PLUS: many more events...

To keep up to date, book onto an event, and see all of the activities, visit:

compassionate-sheffield.co.uk/dying-matters





ANOTHER WORLD IS POSSIBLE



IN CONVERSATION WITH BRIAN ENO

Mon 1 May | 7-9pm |
Leadmill | £15 / £12

Brian Eno is an artist and philosopher who has played a critical part in British culture since the early 1970s. He is a deep believer in the power of ideas and the possibility of a better world, beliefs which manifest both in his audio and visual art, and in his deep engagement with social, political and environmental issues. Chaired by Jon Alexander, author of *Citizens – Why the key to fixing everything is all of us.*



INTERSECTIONAL AGEING

Wed 3 May | 3:15-4:45pm |
The Diamond – Lecture
Theatre 7 | Donations

In partnership with Sheffield
Churches Council for
Community Care

A panel discussion which invites specialists in older people's services across the city to reflect on the available support for older people in Sheffield. The panellists have been selected for their expertise in at least one of the intersectional areas being discussed: ageing, race, gender, disability, neurodivergence and income. There will be opportunities for audience members to input and ask questions and we will hear examples of intersectional best-practice from the panel.



WORLD CAPITALISM IN CRISIS: HOW DO WE FIGHT BACK?

Wed 3 May | 6-8pm |
Sheffield Students' Union –
Gallery Room 2 | Donations

In partnership with Sheffield
Marxist Society

Sheffield Marxist Society hosts a panel discussion with speakers from Insulate Britain, the Sheffield and Yorkshire TUC, and Socialist Appeal. We will discuss how to fight back in the face of the economic, political and environmental crises, both locally and globally. The panel will be followed by an open discussion, and we are looking forward to exchanging views. The event is open to all, come and debate with us.

“Revolutions that last don't happen from the top down.
They happen from the bottom up.”

Gloria Steinem



GARY YOUNGE: DISPATCHES FROM THE DIASPORA

Thu 4 May | 7-8:30pm |
Showroom Workstation -
Creative Lounge | £9 / £6

Dispatches from the Diaspora is a career-spanning work of journalism on race, racism, and Black life and death from Africa, the Caribbean, Europe and the United States. Join us for the launch of this exceptional collection by award-winning author and broadcaster, Gary Younge, as he transports us to the frontlines of history, sharing firsthand accounts of his remarkable encounters, from accompanying Nelson Mandela on his first election campaign, to discussing politics with Stormzy.



WISHES FULFILLED: PERFORMANCE AND Q&A

Fri 5 May | 2-4pm |
Arbourthorne Centre | Free

In partnership with
Compassionate Sheffield,
Age UK Sheffield & Gathering
Ground

A “powerful, moving and incredibly funny” play to help us understand how to have the death we choose. Using people and puppets, AZ2B Theatre Company ingeniously brings to life the complexities of fulfilling the wishes of a dementia patient at the end of their life. Among the hard conversations there’s also joy, love and beauty to be found at the most difficult of times. Followed by an after-show discussion.



CIRCLE OF LIFE IN NATURE: FAMILY ACTIVITY

Sat 6 May | 10am-12pm &
1-3pm | 230th Gleadless
Scouts Hut | Free

In partnership with
Compassionate Sheffield

Families are welcome to join this nature session in local woodland to explore ideas around life and death cycles, do creative activities together with natural materials, and chat around a campfire. Led by outdoor practitioners Rose Tomson and Charlie Hill. Suitable for all ages. Campfire snacks and warm drinks provided. Toilets and changing facilities available. Please note this activity is not wheelchair accessible due to the woodland terrain. Parking – on site at the Scout Hut.



REBEL BODIES: A GUIDE TO THE GENDER HEALTH GAP REVOLUTION

Tue 9 May | 7-8:30pm | The
Circle - Conference Room |
£0-£5

Join award-winning health journalist Sarah Graham for a discussion on her book, *Rebel Bodies: A guide to the gender health gap revolution*. Women make up 51% of the population and are the biggest users of healthcare services, but research shows there are massive gender differences in men and women’s healthcare. Women’s pain is disbelieved. We are misdiagnosed. We are not trusted to make informed choices about our own bodies. It’s time for change.



SHEFFIELD: WHERE REAL ECONOMICS BEATS NEOLIBERALISM

Tue 9 May | 7-9pm |
Quaker Meeting House | £5

The Guild Socialist debates in Yorkshire first gave England an understanding of the banking and government malfeasance which brought about wage slavery and financial exploitation. Their solutions to overcoming the deadening impact of neoliberal policies and corporate greed lay in applying the principles of social credit and communitarianism. We will confront the wrong economic thinking that results in inequality by applying these principles in our communities to overturn the government policies that persecute us today.



THE GIFT: FILM AND Q&A

Tue 9 May & Wed 10 May |
8-9:30pm | Samuel Worth
Chapel | Free

In partnership with
Compassionate Sheffield

This award-winning documentary (12A) by independent filmmaker Dr Barry J Gibb follows vibrant Californian artist, Barbara Bird, during the final year of her life and beyond her death. We share time with Barbara as she comes to terms with – and celebrates – her own mortality, challenging what makes a good life, a good death, a person? The live Q&A will be followed by an informal show & tell inspired by Barry’s latest film project, *The Shape of Grief*. Audience members are invited to bring along an object they treasure from a person they have lost.

“What we cannot imagine, cannot come into being.”

bell hooks

“The duty of youth is to challenge corruption.”

Kurt Cobain



HOSPICING MODERNITY WITH VANESSA DE OLIVEIRA ANDREOTTI

Wed 10 May | 5:30–6:30pm | Online | Donations

Driven by expansion, colonialism and resource extraction, and propelled by neoliberalism and rabid consumption, our world is profoundly out of balance. Join us to discuss Vanessa's book *Hospicing Modernity* which offers frameworks that speak to modernity's infrastructure and its fractures. Vanessa is the interim director of the Peter Wall Institute for Advanced Studies at the University of British Columbia, and the incoming Dean of the Faculty of Education at the University of Victoria, Canada. Chaired by Habiba Nabatu.



THINK TANKS: MALIGN OR BENIGN?

Thu 11 May | 6–7:30pm | Online | Donations

In partnership with Media North

Think tanks like the Institute of Economic Affairs and the Adam Smith Institute have reshaped the UK. They were behind policies like the privatisation of public utilities, and, in the disastrous Liz Truss government, her economics advisor was the former chief executive of the Taxpayers' Alliance. These right-wing think tanks lack transparency in terms of who funds them. Why do they have such influence and is there a positive role for other think tanks?



DERAILED: HOW TO FIX BRITAIN'S BROKEN RAILWAYS

Thu 11 May | 6:30–8pm | Union St – One Space | Donations

In partnership with Manchester University Press

Few would disagree that Britain's railways are broken, and have been for a long time. *Derailed* is an insightful new book that calls for a radical rethink of how we view the railways. Author Tom Haines-Doran argues that the railways should be seen as a social good and an indispensable feature of the national economy, and be improved so they can play an instrumental role in decreasing social inequalities, strengthening the economy and supporting a transition to a sustainable future.



CREATING SOUTH YORKSHIRE'S DOUGHNUT

Thu 11 May | 12–8pm | Showroom Workstation – Creative Lounge | Donations

In partnership with Doughnut Economics Action Lab & South Yorkshire Climate Alliance

The need to change our way of life has never been more urgent, and yet discussions on paths forward are often blocked by the economic reality we find ourselves in, and then translating those discussions into real action becomes ever more challenging. This event is for people who want to move beyond this road block and develop a plan for transformative action in South Yorkshire.

Based on the Doughnut Economics Action Lab (DEAL) framework, and produced in partnership with South Yorkshire Climate Alliance, this mini conference will bring together activists, researchers and campaigners from national organisations undertaking this work, alongside local sustainability experts and activists to create a DEAL city portrait of Sheffield and South Yorkshire.

Our first three sessions, running until 5pm, will guide participants through the DEAL framework with examples of work already happening and talks from the people engaged in that work, and lead to applying that methodology to South Yorkshire. After an extended break for dinner we will reconvene for a closing discussion and pledge actions to take forward in the coming months.

This is an event focussed on taking steps forward and breaking down barriers to action.

Speakers – Rob Shorter (DEAL), Immy Kaur (Civic Square), Prof. Andy Gouldson (University of Leeds), Prof. Michael Jacobs (University of Sheffield) and more!



THE NATURE EMERGENCY: PEOPLE & COMMUNITIES

Thu 11 May | 7-9:15pm | Dorothy Fleming Lecture Theatre | £3 / Donations

In partnership with Nature Recovery Sheffield

Nature Recovery Sheffield and special guests will discuss the importance of engaging different communities with nature and how to take action for nature. The event will launch a 'Community Action for Nature Map', showcasing what people are already doing locally. There will also be time for networking, finding out how to get involved in Nature Recovery Sheffield, plus an option to see a short film about Nature Recovery Sheffield's Nature Heroes.



ADVENTURES IN ACTIVISM

Fri 12 May | 7-11pm | DINA | Donations

In partnership with Alt-Sheff

An invitation to discuss with Sheffield activists from a range of groups, viewpoints and backgrounds. We need activists to push for change. Are you an activist? Would you consider it? Do you know or help people who do activism? Individuals decide to take a journey into activism, but activists themselves need love and support, mentally and emotionally, physically and organisationally. So, how can we help?



WHO OWNS THE RIVER DON?

Sat 13 May | 11am-1pm | Kelham Island Industrial Museum Courtyard - Brearley Room | Donations

In partnership with Dark Matter Labs & The River Dôn Project

What if the River Don was to be recognised as a citizen, just like you and me? To transition from our current human-centric to an ecocentric worldview, and ensure the viability and thriving of all ecosystems, can we embrace a more-than-human notion of agency and autonomy for the land, river or other non-human agents? What kind of new relationships, legal frameworks, and governance institutions would we need to recognise their autonomy, agency and voice?



NOTES ON A PROTEST

Sat 13 May | 7-9:30pm | Crucible Theatre

In partnership with Music in the Round

Join us for this very special evening of words and music featuring Music in the Round's Bridge Quintet. Six special guests from Sheffield and beyond will be performing their favourite political speeches and monologues alongside live music from the Bridge Quintet. For fans of Public Service Broadcasting. Check the website for details of who will be joining us live on the night.



HOW DO WE INVEST IN CITY TRANSITIONS & THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE HERE?

Mon 15 May | 5-6:30pm | Online | Donations

An online event exploring debt, investment and new forms of value and currency. Led by provocations from leading local and international thinkers and exploring new possibilities for how Sheffield could raise and distribute capital proportionate to the challenge of climate transition. What is the role of private and public sector investment? What are the opportunities for existing financial institutions in Sheffield, and what new capabilities at a city level would be required to facilitate new capital flows?



TACKLING POVERTY & INJUSTICE

Tue 16 May | 2:30-4pm | Online | £125 / Donations

In partnership with Manavodaya & Citizen Network

There is a silent social movement in India affecting the lives of millions of rural women through self-help. The pioneer of this movement throws light on the key principles involved, the universal nature of the process and why it is needed to counter the problems facing our planet viz poverty, inequality and injustice. It is a process of building self-awareness and collective awareness, guided by G20 slogan Vasudhaiv Kutumbakam, World is one Family.

“Protest is not the end of progress. It is the beginning.”

Lizzo

“Women’s freedom is the sign of social freedom.”

Rosa Luxemburg



EFFECTIVE CAMPAIGNING TO END THE CLIMATE CRISIS

Tue 16 May | 7-9pm | Central United Reform Church | Donations

In partnership with Sheffield For Democracy

How we can challenge the way in which the climate emergency is impacting the world is an urgent question. There are different democratic approaches, varied opinions about these approaches, and disagreements often rooted in deeply held principles. A panel of local activists from South Yorkshire Climate Alliance, Friends of the Earth, Extinction Rebellion, Sheffield Quakers and the Jubilee Movement, will debate their recent experiences and reflections for the future with the audience.



DRUG REFORM: IN CONVERSATION WITH PROFESSOR DAVID NUTT

Tue 16 May | 7-9pm | Leadmill | £12 / £10

A former government advisor on drug policy, Professor David Nutt specialises in research exploring the potential medicinal uses of drugs including LSD, MDMA and psilocybin. Professor Nutt will talk about the barriers to researching controlled substances in the UK and their untapped potential for treating mental health conditions.



WHAT IF EVERYONE HAD REAL AGENCY IN THEIR WORKPLACE?

Wed 17 May | 7:30-9pm | Crucible Theatre – Adelphi Room | Donations

In partnership with Now Then Magazine & South Yorkshire Ownership Hub

Join Now Then Magazine and the South Yorkshire Ownership Hub to explore what's been uncovered in their shared 'generative inquiry', for which they are interviewing people in worker-owned and worker-controlled organisations in the region. How are distributed power, voice and financial gains affecting people and organisations? What new potentials can we unlock to grow and deepen people's agency and control at work? What's the best thing that could happen? Short talks followed by Q&A.



GLOBAL DEBT & CLIMATE JUSTICE: GROWING THE MOVEMENT

Wed 17 May | 7-9pm | Quaker Meeting House | £3 / Donations

In partnership with Global Justice Sheffield

Across the world, together, grassroots activists are combining in a rapidly growing network of interconnected campaigns – for debt justice, climate justice, women's and workers' rights and empowerment, and others – a movement of movements to end and replace neo-colonialism and patriarchy. Our impressive panel of four women grassroots activists have many years of campaigning and organising: in South Asia, Tanzania, the Caribbean, UK trade union activism, and here in Sheffield among Black and other marginalised communities.



IT'S OUR COMMUNITY CONFERENCE

Thu 18 May | 10am-5pm | Victoria Hall | £0-£90

In partnership with Citizen Network & Neighbourhood Democracy Movement

The future of care and support is in our neighbourhoods. The current system isn't working – but we know the solutions we need:

- **Rooted in neighbourhood** – The response to the COVID pandemic revealed the enormous capacity of citizens to provide mutual support and keep each other safe.
- **Peer powered** – There are new ways of working for citizens and professionals, cutting out bureaucracy, trusting citizens and empowering frontline workers.
- **Creative** – Support must be personalised so everyone can be included as an equal in the life of the community – cherishing our wonderful diversity.
- **Built on human rights** – Everyone must have freedom, meaningful entitlements and the chance to participate and contribute in their own way.
- **Investing in community** – We need to invest in our citizens, families and communities and stop the wasteful export of people, money and talent from our neighbourhoods.

Citizen Network and the Neighbourhood Democracy Movement invite you to join us in a Well-Being Agora – a space to meet the people who are taking action in their local neighbourhoods, and those working behind the scenes to create the systems we need for the future.

Let's grow these ideas together and create the changes we need here in Yorkshire and around the world. Lunch provided. This event will be BSL interpreted.



A WALK & TALK ON 'GROWING' RESILIENCE IN OUR PLACES

Thu 18 May | 6-8pm | Manor Oaks Farmhouse | Donations

In partnership with with Green Estate

We invite you to a rare opportunity to visit our picturesque sustainable urban meadows (as seen in the Tower of London Superbloom) and to join us in a conversation about growing adaptation and resilience into our places and communities. The event will include a short tour and a guest performance of *'Who Ya Gonna Call (In an Emergency)?'* from brilliant climate activist Professor Steve Scott-Bottoms in our beautiful Manor Oaks venue.



SHEFFIELD'S REUSABLE REVOLUTION

Thu 18 May | 7-9pm | Showroom Cafe Bar | Free

In partnership with Plastic Free Sheffield

Around 100+ million plastic cups are used every year at UK festivals and live events, and most are incinerated or sent to landfill. What's the solution? Reusables! For every 1 million reusable event cups in regular use, 1000 tonnes of CO2e emissions and 300 tonnes of waste could be avoided. Plastic Free Sheffield have been investigating the possibilities of reusable pint and coffee cups. Come along and find out where we are in our journey to tackle plastic pollution and plastic waste.

“Every moment is an organising opportunity, every person a potential activist, every minute a chance to change the world.”

Dolores Huerta

City Goals engagements

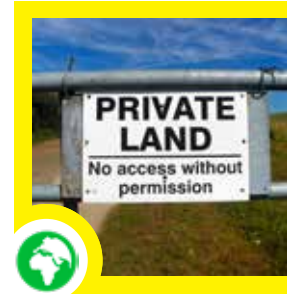
Our city can be a place where everyone lives well and takes care of each other. But it takes each and every one of us to make that happen.



*In coming together as friends, neighbours, strangers and communities of Sheffield, we can **step up** to the challenges ahead.*

*To fulfil that promise, we need to be acting together and driving change towards the same goals. **Our City Goals.***

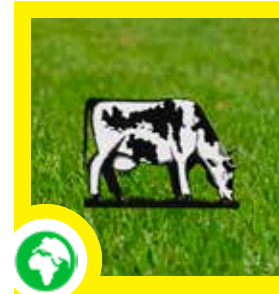
*You're invited to complete the survey at www.sheffieldcitygoals.uk to help set our City Goals by shaping what our city stands for, what we want our city to be now and in the future and what we want to do together to build our **legacy**.*



JUST ACCESS TO LAND

Fri 19 May | 5-6:30pm |
Quaker Meeting House &
Online | Donations

Can we have a landscape with more space for wilderness and food growing, alongside access to green spaces for all? The land in and around our city could be a haven for nature; reducing the risk of flooding, heatwaves and food insecurity; providing green spaces that are good for people and our planet. This panel discussion brings together experts and activists to discuss land ownership, protecting nature, food growing, and the right to roam.



THREE ACRES AND A COW

Fri 19 May | 7-10pm |
Upper Chapel | £8-£15

A history of land rights and protest in folk song and story, *Three Acres and A Cow* connects the Norman Conquest and Peasants' Revolt with current issues like the housing crisis, reparations, climate breakdown and food sovereignty via the Enclosures, English Civil War and Industrial Revolution, drawing a compelling narrative through the radical people's history of England. 'Everybody should see this show' - George Monbiot.



PERIOD POSITIVE SCHOOLS: MENSTRUAL LITERACY FOR ALL

Sat 20 May | 10am-5pm |
Sheffield Town Hall | Free

In partnership with Period
Positive

Have you ever wondered what school would be like if periods weren't taboo? Come along to this exciting, hands-on conference where young people, parents and teachers can workshop innovative activities from across the curriculum with local and global partners. Teacher-activist Chella Quint launched Period Positive Schools here 10 years ago, and has supported pupils to speak out against menstrual taboos and take the Period Positive Pledge ever since. A must-attend for anyone part of this empowering movement!





BEVAN'S VISION: THROUGH THE LENS OF RACE & MENTAL HEALTH

Sat 20 May | 1-3pm |
ISRAAC | Donations

Nye Bevan's vision for a National Health Service in a post-war Britain was revolutionary for its time. Although built with the support of people from the Commonwealth, the NHS was not built to support those of different races or ethnicities. 75 years later, the NHS are admitting the inequalities faced by racialised communities. Join us in conversation about what the SHSC NHS Foundation Trust is doing to address the experiences of racialised communities accessing mental health support in our city.



DYING MATTERS OPEN MIC: HOSTED BY SHARENA LEE SATTI

Sat 20 May | 7-9pm |
Common Ground Community
Centre | Free

In partnership with
Compassionate Sheffield

All welcome to bring your best words, poems and vocals to this family-friendly open mic event themed around death and loss, hosted by Bradford-based spoken word artist and poet Sharena Lee Satti. Or just come with open hearts and ears to sit back and listen. Refreshments available. Once you've booked a ticket, you can reserve an open mic slot by emailing: r.nutter@hospicesheffield.co.uk



GENERAL LEVY: 'INCREDIBLE' BOOK LAUNCH & LIVE SHOW WITH GUESTS

Sat 20 May | Book Launch
7-8:30pm | Live Show
9pm-1am | SADACCA |
£5-£17

General Levy is a true veteran of UK urban music, and one of the pioneers of the jungle and drum 'n' bass scenes. He returns to SADACCA for the first time since playing there at the beginning of his career in the early 90s, and joins us for an in-conversation about his book *Incredible*, charting his journey in music followed by a live set in G-Mill. Jungle is Massive.



WISHES FULFILLED: PERFORMANCE AND Q&A

Sun 21 May | 2:30-4:30pm |
Hillsborough Park - The
Pavilion | Free

In partnership with
Compassionate Sheffield, Age
UK Sheffield & Gathering
Ground

A "powerful, moving and incredibly funny" play to help us understand how to have the death we choose. Using people and puppets, AZ2B Theatre Company ingeniously brings to life the complexities of fulfilling the wishes of a dementia patient at the end of their life. Among the hard conversations there's also joy, love and beauty to be found at the most difficult of times. Followed by an after-show discussion.



CREATING THRIVING POST-INDUSTRIAL CITIES

Mon 22 May | 1-4:30pm |
Alfred Denny Building -
Conference Room & Online |
Donations

An across-the-pond conversation and half-day symposium featuring four panels with in-person and virtual presentations, exploring how to build thriving, integrated post-industrial cities. The symposium develops from Jennifer Vanderpool's ongoing social practice art exhibitions *Untold Stories*, a series of community-specific and site-responsive exhibitions taking place in the de-industrialized Midwest region of the USA, and the industrial North of England.



PARTICIPATE IN SHAPING SHEFFIELD CITY GOALS

Mon 22 May | 11am-1pm |
ShipShape Community Hub |
Donations

In partnership with City Goals

Our city can be a place where everyone lives well and takes care of each other. But it takes each and every one of us to make that happen. Living or working in Sharrow? Join us to participate in a facilitated workshop to shape what our city stands for, what we want our city to be now and in the future and what we want to do together to build our **legacy**. Lunch provided.

“Let us wage a glorious struggle against illiteracy, poverty and terrorism. Let us pick up our books and our pens; they are the most powerful weapons.”

Malala Yousafzai





CO-OWNERSHIP DROP-IN SESSION

Tue 23 May | 5:30-7pm |
Showroom Cafe Bar -
Function Room | Donations

In partnership with South
Yorkshire Ownership Hub

What is it like to run a worker-owned and worker-controlled organisation? How do people's relationships with their workplace change when it becomes employee-owned? Where does power lie and how are decisions made? How does it benefit communities? Whether you're in the sector, or someone who is interested to learn more, come along to this informal, lightly-facilitated networking session to deepen our shared understanding of why agency and control in the workplace are good for people, communities, businesses and the local economy. Food will be provided.



A BETTER FUTURE: MAPPING THE JOURNEY TO DEMOCRACY 2043

Wed 24 May | 7-8:30pm |
Showroom Workstation -
Creative Lounge | Free

In partnership with
mySociety

What if you could reshape democracy for the better – and you had 20 years to do so? Since 2003, UK charity mySociety has been creating digital tools that help people play an active part in democracy. In this, their 20th anniversary year, they are inviting some of this country's most insightful thinkers to describe their positive vision for Democracy 2043, and what we need to put in place to make it happen.



(WHAT'S THE WORST THAT CAN HAPPEN?) WHEN TWO MEN HUG

Thu 25 May | 7-8:30pm |
DINA | £5 / £3

In partnership with
Assiduous Ensemble & Tim
Norwood Theatre

On a quest across the land to reach the highest peak of the tallest mountain, Tim and Harry must discover their true masculine selves, rather than how the world expects them to be. They will face demons both within and without, in a personal journey of music, comedy and drama. *Two Men Hug* is a playful, touching and funny exploration of marginalised masculinity, based on the personal experiences of the performers.



NOT SO BLACK AND WHITE: WITH KENAN MALIK

Thu 25 May | 7-9pm |
Sheffield Students' Union -
Nelson Mandela Auditorium
| £9 / £6

Kenan Malik is a writer, lecturer, broadcaster, *Observer* columnist and author of a new book, *Not So Black and White*, a history of race from white supremacy to the politics of identity. A former *Moral Maze* panellist, he has presented BBC Radio 3's *Nightwaves* and Radio 4's *Analysis*. His previous books include *The Quest for a Moral Compass*, and *From Fatwa to Jihad*, which was shortlisted for the Orwell Prize. Chaired by Désirée Reynolds.



SECRET POWER: WIKILEAKS & ITS ENEMIES

Fri 26 May | 7-9pm |
Leadmill | £12 / £10

Working closely with WikiLeaks and its founder Julian Assange for her newspaper, Stefania Maurizi – winner of the European Award for Investigative and Judicial Journalism 2021 – has spent over a decade investigating state criminality protected by thick layers of secrecy. Her new book looks at the brutality of secret power and the unbearable price paid by Julian Assange, WikiLeaks and truth tellers such as Chelsea Manning and Edward Snowden. She will be joined by Stella Assange who is a lawyer, human rights defender and wife of Julian Assange.



O'HOOLEY & TIDOW: 'CLOUDHEADS' TOUR

Fri 26 May | 7:30-10pm |
Upper Chapel | £22

Join O'Hooley & Tidow as they visit Sheffield's glorious Upper Chapel, a performance and meeting space in the heart of the city since 1700, in support of their new studio album *Cloudheads*. Much-loved Yorkshire folk duo Belinda O'Hooley and Heidi Tidow have been propelled into newfound fame for penning the theme tune to Sally Wainwright's hit BBC1/HBO drama *Gentleman Jack*, earning them global admiration, appearances on TV, Radio 4 *Woman's Hour* and concerts that sell out months in advance.



“Hope is not something you have. Hope is something you create.”

Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez

Thu 13 April	People, Politicians & The Climate	Climate
Thu 13 April	The Housing Crisis: In Conversation with Kwajo Tweneboza	Inequality
Fri 14 April	Verbs Not Nouns: Scaffolding Alternative Futures	Climate
Sat 15 April	Participate in Shaping Sheffield City Goals	Democracy
Sat 15 April	Straight to the Facts: In Conversation with Will Moy	Democracy
Mon 17 April	Who Owns the Land? A New Theory of Rights & Responsibilities	Climate
Tue 18 April	Tackling Inequity in Access to Nature Across the City	Climate
Tue 18 April	Our Broken Politics: How Can We Rebuild Our Democracy?	Democracy
Wed 19 April	Can Migrant Women Speak in Sheffield?	Inequality
Fri 21 April	Tales of Hope: Regenerative Society or Permacrisis?	Inequality
Sat 22 April	Self-Awareness: An Act of Community	Inequality
Sat 22 April	Everyday Life as a Knot of Flows: Conversations Along the River Don	Climate
Sat 22 April	Everyday Life as a Knot of Flows: Collective Mapping River Don	Climate
Mon 24 April	Tim Marshall on The Future of Geography	Democracy
Tue 25 April	Rage Against the Machine: Young People & Political Power	Democracy
Tue 25 April	Sheffield's Local Elections: Climate & Nature Hustings	Climate
Wed 26 April	Modelling the Future Rights of Nature in South Yorkshire	Climate
Fri 28 April	The Blue Commons: with Guy Standing	Climate
Mon 1 May	In Conversation with Brian Eno	Climate
Wed 3 May	Intersectional Ageing	Inequality
Wed 3 May	World Capitalism in Crisis: How Do We Fight Back?	Inequality
Thu 4 May	Gary Young: Dispatches from the Diaspora	Inequality
Fri 5 May	Wishes Fulfilled: Performance and Q&A	Democracy
Sat 6 May	Circle of Life in Nature: Family Activity	Climate
Tue 9 May	Sheffield: Where Real Economics Beats Neoliberalism	Inequality
Tue 9 May	Rebel Bodies: A Guide to the Gender Health Gap Revolution	Inequality
Tue 9 May	The Gift: Film and Q&A	Democracy
Wed 10 May	The Gift: Film and Q&A	Democracy
Wed 10 May	Hospicing Modernity with Vanessa De Oliveira Andreotti	Democracy
Thu 11 May	Creating South Yorkshire's Doughnut	Climate

Thu 11 May	Think Tanks: Malign or Benign?	Democracy
Thu 11 May	Derailed: How to Fix Britain's Broken Railways	Democracy
Thu 11 May	The Nature Emergency: People & Communities	Climate
Fri 12 May	Adventures in Activism	Inequality
Sat 13 May	Who Owns the River Don?	Climate
Sat 13 May	Notes on a Protest	Democracy
Mon 15 May	How Do We Invest in City Transitions & The People Who Live Here?	Democracy
Tue 16 May	Tackling Poverty & Injustice	Inequality
Tue 16 May	Effective Campaigning to End the Climate Crisis	Climate
Tue 16 May	Drug Reform: In Conversation with Professor David Nutt	Democracy
Wed 17 May	What if Everyone Had Real Agency in Their Workplace?	Inequality
Wed 17 May	Global Debt & Climate Justice: Growing the Movement	Climate
Thu 18 May	It's Our Community Conference	Democracy
Thu 18 May	A Walk & Talk on 'Growing' Resilience in Our Places	Climate
Thu 18 May	Sheffield's Reusable Revolution	Climate
Fri 19 May	Just Access to Land	Climate
Fri 19 May	Three Acres and A Cow	Climate
Sat 20 May	Period Positive Schools: Menstrual Literacy for All	Inequality
Sat 20 May	Bevan's Vision: Through The Lens of Race and Mental Health	Inequality
Sat 20 May	Dying Matters Open Mic: Hosted by Sharena Lee Satti	Democracy
Sat 20 May	General Levy: 'Incredible' Book Launch & Live Show with Guests	Inequality
Sun 21 May	Wishes Fulfilled: Performance and Q&A	Democracy
Mon 22 May	Participate in Shaping Sheffield City Goals	Democracy
Mon 22 May	Creating Thriving Post-Industrial Cities	Inequality
Tue 23 May	Co-ownership Drop-in Session	Democracy
Wed 24 May	A Better Future: Mapping the Journey to Democracy 2043	Democracy
Thu 25 May	(What's the Worst That Can Happen?) When Two Men Hug	Inequality
Thu 25 May	Not So Black and White: with Kenan Malik	Inequality
Fri 26 May	Secret Power: Wikileaks & Its Enemies - Stefania Maurizi & Stella Assange	Democracy
Fri 26 May	O'Hooley and Tidow: 'Cloudheads' Tour	Inequality



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THE CIRCLE

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CRUCIBLE THEATRE

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THE DIAMOND

32 LEAVYGREAVE RD, S3 7RD



DINA

12 FITZALAN SQ, S1 2AZ



DOROTHY FLEMING LECTURE THEATRE

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HEELEY TRUST

ASH TREE YARD, 62-68 THIRLWELL RD, S8 9TF



HILLSBOROUGH PARK

THE PAVILION, MIDDLEWOOD RD, S6 4HD



ISRAAC

54 CEMETERY RD, S11 8FP



KELHAM ISLAND INDUSTRIAL MUSEUM

ALMA ST, S3 8SA



LEADMILL

6 LEADMILL RD, S1 4SE



MANOR OAKS FARMHOUSE

MANOR OAKS RD, S2 1UL



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10 ST JAMES' ST, S1 2EW



SADACCA

48 WICKER, S3 8JB



SAMUEL WORTH CHAPEL

THE GATEHOUSE, CEMETERY AVE, S11 8NT



SHEFFIELD CENTRAL LIBRARY

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SHEFFIELD TOWN HALL

PINSTONE ST, S1 2HH



SHIPSHAPE COMMUNITY HUB

THE STABLES, SHARROW LANE, S11 8AE



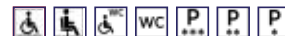
SHOWROOM WORKSTATION

15 PATERNOSTER ROW, S1 2BX



THE WOODLAND DISCOVERY CENTRE

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ACCESSIBILITY KEY



Level Access and Automatic Doors – Level access to entrance, sensor or push pad-operated automatic doors (or no doors), space for wheelchair (75cm).



Access by ramps, slopes and/or manual doors – Easy/moderate ramp/slope with manual or automatic doors at entrance or inside venue. Space for wheelchair (75cm).



Seat Available – Seating is available as standard or can be requested.



WC Accessible – Step-free access to accessible toilets, with grab rails, drop-down rails and space for wheelchair (75cm).



WC Standard – Step-free access to standard toilets on ground floor or other floors accessible by lift.



Parking 3* – Venue has its own car park.



Parking 2* – Blue badge on-street parking, or venue can provide parking to blue badge holders with prior warning.



Parking 1* – Public car park within 200m of venue.

If you have any access requirements, please contact us (hello@festivalofdebate.com) or the venue directly to ensure your visit is comfortable. We've tried to make this venue guide as accurate as possible. More information is available at accessible.co.uk

If you have any additional needs – for example, knowing how to get to and from a venue, having a seat saved for you, or accessing the venue before an event begins – please get in touch.

Festival of Debate could not take place without the generosity and commitment of many individuals and groups across Sheffield and beyond. We are hugely appreciative of their support, passion and involvement in the festival. Please take note of the logos below, these people do great work.



PARTNERS



Opus contributes upstream solutions to urgent and complex system problems.

Since 2008, we've hosted platforms, networks, services and projects like Now Then Magazine, UBI Lab Network and Festival of Debate – they connect us to each other and to culture, ideas, action and conversations that will make change.

Our work joins up and amplifies social causes, arts and culture, not-for-profits, emerging talent, active citizenship and community participation, from the hyperlocal to the international.

We work across disciplines and sectors to collaborate with communities, independent businesses, voluntary groups, cities, campaigns, research institutions, infrastructure organisations and governments to look at the entangled ecological, social, economic, political and cultural crisis we collectively face.



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there is no
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