



# Event schedule

## FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

### **9.15am-3.30pm - Isle of Man Bank 'National Story Day'**

**Venue:** 25 schools and colleges around the Island

**Tickets:** Not open to public

**Notes:** In partnership with the Department of Education & Children, the second annual 'National Story Day' will see a team of Litfest authors, poets and performers visit schools and colleges around the Island. The team consists of: Joe Beech, Alan Bradley, Craig Bradley, Robert Bullock, Elen Caldecott, Ben Haggarty, Matt Haig, Paul Canon Harris, Curtis Jobling, Victoria Lamb, Michele McGrath, Adele Parks and Holly Webb.

**Event sponsored by Isle of Man Bank ([www.iombank.com](http://www.iombank.com))**

### **10.00pm-2.00pm - Writing Masterclass Workshop with Andrew Taylor**

**Venue:** King William's College

**Tickets:** £30 (contact [manxlitfest@gmail.com](mailto:manxlitfest@gmail.com))

**Notes:** A hot ticket for any aspiring author, or indeed published author. Andrew is one of the UK's leading crime and historical novelists, having won many major awards in a career that stretches back 30 years and more than 40 novels ([www.andrew-taylor.co.uk](http://www.andrew-taylor.co.uk)). In 2009 he was awarded the Diamond Dagger, the top award from the Crime Writers' Association, and this summer won the CWA's Ellis Peters Historical Dagger for the third time, for his latest novel *The Scent of Death*, following earlier wins for *The Office of the Dead* (2001) and *The American Boy* (2003). If you're a writer looking to learn more tricks of the trade, you can't afford to miss this opportunity. Places limited - please email [manxlitfest@gmail.com](mailto:manxlitfest@gmail.com) for full details.

**Event sponsored by Pokerstars ([www.pokerstars.com](http://www.pokerstars.com))**

### **2.30pm-3.30pm - Meet the author - Barbara Erskine signing**

**Venue:** Noa's Bakehouse, Fort Street, Douglas

**Tickets:** Free event

**Notes:** The author of twelve novels and four short story collections, Barbara's bestsellers include *Time's Legacy*, *Kingdom of Shadows* and her most recent, *River of Destiny*. Her first novel, *Lady of Hay*, was published in 1986 and her books meld historical fiction with present day, with elements of the supernatural ([barbara-erskine.co.uk](http://barbara-erskine.co.uk))



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### **4.15pm-5.15pm - Curtis Jobling: Bob the Builder to Master of Werewolves!**

**Venue:** Henry Bloom Noble Library, Douglas

**Tickets:** Contact the library for details (Tel: 696461)

**Notes:** An interactive talk for children of all ages. Curtis is the author of the 'Wereworld' series of books, which feature shapeshifters - werewolves, werelions, wereboars ([www.wereworldbooks.com](http://www.wereworldbooks.com)). Curtis is also the designer of the worldwide hit children's show, *Bob the Builder*, and the author/illustrator of numerous books, including the acclaimed *Frankenstein's Cat*. ([www.wereworldbooks.com](http://www.wereworldbooks.com))

### **4.15pm-5.15pm - Holly Webb: storytelling and crafts**

**Venue:** Family Library, Westmoreland Road, Douglas

**Tickets:** Contact the library for details (Tel: 640650)

**Notes:** Holly is one of the UK's most prolific children's writers, with several series of books. These include *Animal Magic*, *Magic Molly*, the 'Stripes' series (including *Lost in the Snow*), *My Naughty Little Puppy*, and her new *Maisie Hitchins* series, about a Victorian girl detective. ([www.holly-webb.com](http://www.holly-webb.com))

### **5.30pm-6.30pm - Joe Beech: The Little Book of Dyslexia**

**Venue:** Promenade Suite, Villa Marina

**Tickets:** Donations on door

**Notes:** Diagnosed with dyslexia and dyspraxia aged seven, Joe stumbled through the UK education system. Having just completed his teacher training, Joe's first book is aimed at teachers, carers, parents or anyone involved with special educational needs, and is both a look back at how he dealt with dyslexia and dyspraxia, and a practical guide, referencing current research, with ideas that can be used by students with dyslexia and teachers teaching children with dyslexia and dyspraxia.

### **5.30pm-6.30pm - 200 years of Pride and Prejudice - a talk by John Canavan**

**Venue:** Peel Cathedral

**Tickets:** £3 (or book this & *The Past is a Foreign Country* for £10) Available from Celtic Gold in Peel, Bridge Bookshop in Port Erin, Lexicon Bookshop in Douglas, Shakti Man in Ramsey, and via [bookings@manxlitfest.com](mailto:bookings@manxlitfest.com)

**Notes:** To mark the 200th anniversary of the publication of Austen's famous novel, Island scholar & lecturer John Canavan delves into just why the book has proved so popular down the years.



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### **7.30pm-9.00pm - The Past is a Foreign Country - Authors Barbara Erskine and Andrew Taylor talk historical fiction, with a supernatural twist**

**Venue:** Peel Cathedral

**Tickets:** £8 (or book this & 200 Years of Pride and Prejudice for £10) Available from Celtic Gold in Peel, Bridge Bookshop in Port Erin, Lexicon Bookshop in Douglas, Shakti Man in Ramsey, and via [manxlitfest@gmail.com](mailto:manxlitfest@gmail.com)

**Notes:** Two authors who blend elements of the supernatural into their fiction, Barbara and Andrew have almost 60 years' writing experience between them. Andrew writes historical and crime fiction, and this summer won an unprecedented third Ellis Peters Historical Dagger from the Crime Writer's Association for his latest book, *The Scent of Death*. He'd previously won for *The Office of the Dead*, and *The American Boy*, which featured a young Edgar Allan Poe. Barbara's books interlink present day with an historical setting and include *Lady of Hay*, *Whispers in the Sand*, *Time's Legacy* and her most recent, *River of Destiny*.

[www.andrew-taylor.co.uk](http://www.andrew-taylor.co.uk)

[www.barbara-erskine.co.uk](http://www.barbara-erskine.co.uk)

### **8.00pm-11.00pm - Ladies Night In with Adele Parks**

**Venue:** Promenade Suite, Villa Marina (doors open 7.30pm)

**Tickets:** £25, includes a hot buffet and a glass of wine. Available from Villa Marina box office on 01624 600555, the Villa Gaiety website - [cfvg.gov.im](http://cfvg.gov.im) - the Villa Marina reception or the Welcome Centre at the Sea Terminal, Douglas, and via [bookings@manxlitfest.com](mailto:bookings@manxlitfest.com)

**Notes:** One for the ladies, with Adele supported by poet Bridge Carter, the winner of last year's Manx Litfest Poetry Slam. Adele is one of the most popular authors writing today, with a string of hit bestsellers behind her. With more than two million copies sold in the UK alone, her books - which have been translated into 25 languages - include *About Last Night*, *Larger Than Life*, *The Other Woman's Shoes*, *Playing Away* and her latest, *The State We're In*.

[www.adeleparke.com](http://www.adeleparke.com)

**Event sponsored by Shoprite ([www.manxshoprite.com](http://www.manxshoprite.com))**