

JUNE

Writing from in-person group which takes place Wednesday 10.30-12.30

People share (non-obligatory) homework at the start of each session before further writing, reading and discussion. (Apologies, some items reformatted to save space):

Crescent Moon (Jane)

The smile
It was always that smile
Crescent Moon shaped
You'd see the smile before you'd see him.
Glowing in the darkness
Appear he would eventually
Annoyingly so.
But what was one to do.
He had answers but refused to give.
Always talked in riddles and rhymes.
Oh, but for a simple answer.
The frustrating cat
He made one want to smack that crescent
Moon grin right off his face.

Fruit (Linda)

I know that it's wrong but the only fruit that
I mainly eat is bananas, I'm addicted to them, I
have one every single morning and I feel that
they give me some much-needed energy to start
my day off. I also have banana milk drinks nearly
every day. I am addicted to bananas, I think that
I would be quite happy to be a monkey swinging
through the trees and living on bananas!

Business (Will) The streets were a blur of constant movement, Automobiles, City folk and many other things cluttered and moved along the slabs and cobbles of the streets like muddy water over a pebble, he observed it all from his perch up above, his eyes scanning the continuous chaotic murmur of blurred and smudged colours. It's a different form of madness then, than his usual consorted companion of insanity and madness, it fascinated him greatly, the Over Dimension had so many forms and contortions that if one was not already mad from it all, it could definitely hold one hand down that path. He smiled softly, this place was like home with a little bit more spice, this place thrived on business, if the many cogs didn't churn and grind it would simply collapse into silent stillness like the night which crept upon the horizon, but even there this dimension rushed and pulsed like the pistons of the mills.

Blossom time (Rachel)

Blossom time is coming, beautiful
blooms on the trees and the grass.
Lovely mixtures of shades from
white, blue, pink, orange, reds and
purples and many more; more a
kaleidoscope of colours, as the sun
rises above, lighting up the beautiful
blooms, the wind gently blowing in
the distance.

Thorn (Maggie)

It goes a long with blossom.
Not called hawthorn by chance!
For me the thorns are essential.
They prick me out of
complacency,
remind me of the crown
they placed on him
to wound Him and to shame.
Such different use of thorn
in ancient times
when the blessed blossom
headdress
crowned the Beltane Bride.

Masks inspired by traditional **African** designs; **VE Day 80** celebration: 40s-styled helpers and making 'lolly dollies'; our very well-attended **Wellbeing Evening** featuring wonderful **BV writing and art**.



JUNE DETAILS

You, our participants

currently contribute to our rent in Fountain Street and help keep our services going with donations, large and small, in cash and in kind.

Vitaly, you are also supporting one another.

Reflections in a shop window

(Rachel) As I walk down the High Street, I stop and gaze at some of the fashions in a shop window, it is a ladies shop and I like the look of them. I can picture myself wearing the top and trousers. The top is blue striped and the trousers are a navy blue. I try to see the price tags but they are just beyond my funds. So I gaze and just reflect on the reflections in the shop window

Thorn (Tina) The roses their sweet scent, the way they are lovingly nurtured to adorn the gardens of the rich and poor alike.

The Valentine's rose, a blood red, almost. I prefer cream or perhaps a black thorny rose but I should imagine they are artificially dyed and scentless, almost like an abstract funeral as their shelf life expires.

Oh but the thorns that pierce the flesh of the thumb that bleeds
Valentine's blood red –
Imagine me being the thorn in your side.

Business (Bill) So easy to get caught up in the 'whirl' of life. Trying to please everybody and getting thoroughly worn out in the process. The trouble is, it is not that easy to get off this constant 'merry go round' and the question may be, do I really want to, anyway?



Contact details:

c/o Leek Health Centre, Fountain St
Leek, ST13 6JB (Andy collects mail weekly)

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Email: info@borderlandvoices.org.uk

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Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1398672493722468>

Borderland Voices contact **Andy Collins: at home but Wed in Leek**

Borderland Voices

27 years of arts for mental wellbeing



**The Queen's Award
for Voluntary Service**

Newsletter JUNE 2025

In-person sessions, Leek Health Centre, on Wednesdays.

Every Wednesday: All now back in original room
10.30-12.30 **Creative Writing**; 1.30-3.30 **Expressive Art**;
4.00-5.30 **Informal DIY Drop-in. All welcome:** write, colour, chat

To ask about spaces email info@borderlandvoices.org.uk

Images: African-inspired masks; '40s' helpers and making lolly dollies @ **VE Day 80**; our well-attended **Wellbeing evening**

June art: 4th, 18th, 25th: **Leek's buildings + Sheena**; 11th:
Waymaking visit details below

Wed 25th: Emma Ford **Healthwatch 12.30-1.30** any questions?

Wed 11th: 'Waymaking' + artist **Anthony Hammond**.
Leave 1pm for Stockton Brook., return 3.45-4pm.
Let Andy know asap if you need or can offer a lift.

Leek Loves Books: main festival **Sat 7th June**