

2 July 2015

Cosford Hosts Young Teen Fiction Book Awards

Date: 7 July 2015

Time: 9.30am to 4.00pm

The Staffordshire final of the 'Young Teen Fiction Book Awards' will take place at the Royal Air Force Museum Cosford on Tuesday 7 July, with over 200 students from across the county attending the event.

The book awards engage with secondary school students aged 11-14 years old who live or go to school in Staffordshire, or who use a Staffordshire Library Service. It is an opportunity for young people to read an assortment of fiction and nominate titles they have enjoyed. The top six favourite books, as decided by the students, have been shortlisted and students are now voting for the book they think deserves to win the 'Young Teen Fiction Award'. The winner will be announced at the end of the event on 7 July.

Shortlisted books:

- Girl Online by Zoe Sugg
- Valentine Joe by Rebecca Stevens
- Red Leaves by Sita Brahmachari
- The Apple Tart of Hope by Sarah Moore Fitzgerald
- Bodyguard Ransom by Chris Bradford
- No Going Back by Alex Gutteridge

During the event, guest authors Bali Rai and Lil Chase will be in attendance, meeting with students and inspiring them to continue into the world of reading and writing. Local author Bali Rai from Leicester has now written seven young adult novels and has won many awards, including the Angus Book Award and the Leicester Book of the Year. Lil Chase has a first class degree in Creative Writing and works as an Editor in London. Her books include Boys for Beginners, The Boys' school for Girls series and Locker 62.

Throughout the day there will be books for sale from Staffordshire based H & H Spalding Books, a county approved school book supplier. Plus there will be a pop-up library for students to utilise, so don't forget to bring along your library card!

Philip Clayton, Education Manager at RAF Museum Cosford said:

"This is an exciting opportunity for the museum in terms of our engagement with young people through the Staffordshire Library Service. The museum is privileged to have children's writer Tom Palmer as its writer in residence and the more we focus on reading and using historic artefacts as a way to enlighten and excite people of all ages all the better in making sense of the past."

The literacy theme continues throughout July when international writer Ian Thornton is guest speaker at an event being held at the Museum on 14 July. Reading and writing groups from across Staffordshire, including pupils from Codsall High School have all been busy reading Ian's latest book 'The Great Calamitous Tale of Johan Thoms'. The book is based around the character Johan Thoms who in 1914 takes his place as the chauffeur to Franz Ferdinand and the royal entourage and, with one wrong turn,

forever alters the course of history. Attendees will have the exciting opportunity to meet the author and discuss the book as a group.

For further information about event, please visit the museum website www.rafmuseum.org or call 01902 376200. The museum is open daily from 10am and entry to the Museum is FREE of charge.

Keep up to date with the latest news and event information by following us on:

- Facebook – Royal Air Force Museum Cosford
- Twitter @RAFMUSEUM
- Instagram – rafmuseum

Ends...

Notes to Editors:

- **Schools attending include:**
 - Kingsmead School
 - Rugeley Academies
 - Staffordshire University Academy
 - Great Wyrley High School
 - Norton Canes High School
 - Clayton Business and Language College
- More information can be found at: www.staffordshire.gov.uk/ytf
 - Follow us on Facebook – The Royal Air Force Museum, Cosford
 - Follow us on Twitter – @RAFMUSEUM
 - Follow us on Instagram - rafmuseum
 - Royal Air Force Museum Cosford, Shifnal, Shropshire, TF11 8UP
 - Open daily from 10am
 - Admission to the Royal Air Force Museum is free of charge.
 - RAF Museum Cosford images & logo available at:
<http://www.rafmuseum.org.uk/research/media-vault.aspx>
 - For further information and all media enquiries please contact Michelle Morgans on 01902 376212 or email michelle.morgans@rafmuseum.org
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