

Dear Jane Dauncey and Sylvia Benton,

I am pleased to say that Simon Armitage would like to accept your warm invitation to visit Colyton Library, if the following plan works for you and Friends?

*Given the UK-wide interest this time round, we have extended the C-Dd Libraries Tour by several days to run **Thurs, March 24 - Sat, April 2** inclusive. Thanks to everyone's enthusiasm, the schedule is a rather crazy - but wonderful - jigsaw puzzle of libraries!*

*We have done our best to take into account the shortlisted libraries' preferences for day and time. However, geography/logistics mean that we can only offer you a visit on **Saturday, March 26**.*

I appreciate that this is not ideal timing given your interest in attracting high school students, but wonder if you feel this plan is feasible and has other merits perhaps? I notice that the library closes at 12pm on Sat, so the event would be safely out of hours.

Saturday afternoon, March 26

- 1.00 pm. Get-in for our 1-2 person tech crew
- 2.00 pm, Soundcheck for host, Simon Armitage & his guest poet
- **3.00 - 4.00pm, Poetry event including audience Q&A**
- 4.00-5.00pm, Get-out for tech.

If the above is feasible and you'd like to confirm, then we can start to explore the practicalities in more detail (including your proposed activities, our suggested guest poet, the IT, etc).

For example, you mentioned that Colyton Library is due to have an IT up-grade shortly. Our experience of visiting Abington Library in April courtesy of the Friends group there was that we could plug into a wired connection directly - rather than using Wifi - because they were no longer part of a Council-led IT network. I am not sure of the position if you are under the wing of Libraries Unlimited?

There is no immediate rush to work out all the logistics. If, however, Colyton Library wishes to join the Tour, then I will need to include your name / contact info in our grant application to Arts Council England requesting top-up funds to extend the original 7-day plan to 10-days.

Just to explain: we have solid financial support from the TS Eliot Foundation but hope to increase our funds in order to cover greater ground for the C-Dd Libraries Tour; greater geographical ground and artistic ground. Don't worry: if we *don't* get top-up funding, then we will maintain our schedule (but will have to cut back in other ways).

We look forward to your thoughts about a visit on **Saturday afternoon, March 26**. Please do not hesitate if you have any questions at this stage.

All good wishes,
Caroline

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