

# 2019~20 Writing Retreats

## Tutor-led novel writing weekends With Alison May and Janet Gover

Take time to write in peaceful surroundings, unhampered by the distractions of everyday life. Our retreats are all-inclusive allowing you to focus entirely on your writing. Emerge inspired and renewed with fresh insights into the writing process and your writing career.

### 2019 Retreat:

**Autumn Writing Retreat: 11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> October, 2019**

(Only limited places still available – contact us for prices)

### 2020 Retreats:

**Early Spring Retreat – 31<sup>st</sup> January-2<sup>nd</sup> February 2020**

**Summer Retreat – 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> June 2020**

**Autumn Retreat – 30<sup>th</sup> October-1<sup>st</sup> November 2020**

Whether it's your first novel or your tenth, this retreat is designed to help you focus on the work you have in progress or are about to start. The weekend is a mixture of workshops and exercises, writing time and discussions on the art of writing and the publishing industry.

Workshops will cover vital topics such as character and dialogue, plot structure and setting, point of view, themes and imagery. We'll share our top tips for editing and polishing your manuscript, and on how to catch the eye of agents and editors. Tell us what you want to know. Workshops will be tailored to the attendees needs.

Each participant is invited to submit a sample of their work, for a detailed analysis and one-one-one discussion with our tutors to help you find your unique voice. You'll need to bring your laptop (or whatever you write on) and your work in progress. Also bring your questions and problems. We'll do our best to help you find answers.

For further information contact: [alison@alison-may.co.uk](mailto:alison@alison-may.co.uk) or [janet@janetgover.com](mailto:janet@janetgover.com)

Your tutors:



Alison May is a qualified teacher and writes romantic comedies, book group fiction and award-winning short stories. She has a BA in Creative Writing from the University of Birmingham, and has taught creative writing for colleges and universities, writing conferences and literary festivals. She is Chair of the Romantic Novelists' Association.

[www.alison-may.co.uk](http://www.alison-may.co.uk)

Television journalist turned novelist, Janet Gover, writes women's fiction, romance and short stories. She has won, or been shortlisted for awards in the UK, US and Australia. She is organiser of the RNA New Writers' Scheme. [www.janetgover.com](http://www.janetgover.com)



Alison and Janet also write collaboratively as Juliet Bell.

It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a single man in possession of a good fortune, in want of a wife.

However little known the feelings or views of such a man may be on his own part, it is the business of the neighbouring friends to consider the right property of some one or other of their daughters.

"My dear Mr. Bennet," said his lady to him one day, "I have just been reading a very curious book."

### The Retreat:

Arrive late afternoon on Friday for a welcome dinner and a chance to meet everyone and talk about your writing. Saturday and Sunday morning will be a mix of tutored workshops, one-on-one meetings with tutors and free time to concentrate on your writing. The retreat ends on Sunday afternoon with a session to help you take the lessons, energy and inspiration of the retreat with you when you return home.

Bring pens and notebooks. There's a lot of work to do and a lot of fun to be had as well. Dress however you wish and join the group in the evenings for informal discussions on the writing life.

### The Venue:

Set in Tudor-style farmhouse built in the 1500s, Kings Court Hotel is in the heart of Shakespeare country, in the village of Kings Coughton, just seven miles outside Stratford-upon-Avon. It has large en-suite rooms, and a bright airy conference centre, with plenty of places to sit and write. Free wireless internet is available. Wheelchair accessible rooms are available. Shared twin rooms may be available on request.

The nearest train station is Stratford-Upon-Avon and there is easy road access from the M40.

Find out more at: <http://www.kingscourthotel.co.uk/>

### The Cost:

The cost (all-inclusive):

The full price for each retreat is £370.

A deposit of £80 is to be paid at the time of booking, the balance to be paid 6 weeks prior to the retreat. Payment in instalments can be arranged. Bookings close 6 weeks prior to the retreat.

### What people said last time:

*'Excellent value. Excellent content. Really enjoyable, beneficial and worthwhile weekend.'*

*'I have learned so much more about the craft of writing and being a writer.'*

*'Wonderful talks, critiques and most of all, encouragement'*

For further information, or to make a booking, please contact:

[alison@alison-may.co.uk](mailto:alison@alison-may.co.uk) or [Janet@janetgover.com](mailto:Janet@janetgover.com)

