

Longbarrow Press Launches in Sheffield

A diverse group of writers and artists will be appearing at The Red Deer in Sheffield to celebrate the launch of Longbarrow Press, an exciting new venture in printmaking and poetry publishing.

Matthew Clegg, Chris Jones, Andrew Hirst and Brian Lewis have come together to produce the first in a series of hand-crafted works that combine poetry, etching, photography and prose. This is a rare opportunity to hear them read and discuss their poems and practices in intimate surroundings.

Longbarrow Press was founded by Andrew Hirst and Brian Lewis with the aim of developing new writing in close collaboration with its authors. It is committed to a mode of production that places equal emphasis on the printed word and the materiality of the object; to achieve this end, each of its titles has been designed, printed and assembled by hand.

The first fruits of the press are Matthew Clegg's *Nobody Sonnets*, a new sequence of eight poems with original artwork by Andrew Hirst, and *The Frome Sampler*, a boxed edition of postcards comprising poems and photographs by Andrew Hirst and Brian Lewis. Both titles appear in special packaging and have been produced in strictly limited editions; a small quantity will be available to buy at the launch.

These will be followed later this year by Chris Jones's *Miniatures*, a cycle of short poems recently commissioned by Longbarrow, and the audio version of Andrew Hirst's celebrated performance work, *The Snail Drunk*.

The Longbarrow Press launch is at The Red Deer, Pitt Street, Sheffield on Thursday, 27 April at 8 pm (admission £1).