

Saturday 21 November 2015 10am – 10pm

# BUT I KNOW THIS CITY!

[www.excavate.org.uk](http://www.excavate.org.uk)

**But I Know This City!** is a community reading by over fifty people of a radical and experimental novel set in Nottingham. This event will take place over one day in twenty five locations across the city centre.

The Unfortunates by B.S. Johnson, published in 1969, is best known as the 'book in a box'. Each of its twenty seven chapters are separately bound and only 'First' and 'Last' are titled. The other 25 chapters can be shuffled and read in any order. In the same way, this event allows you to create your own journey through the novel and through Nottingham.

'First' and 'Last' are timetabled and happen throughout the day in the Lounge at Broadway. We recommend that you start and end here, although this is certainly not essential. Once you have listened to 'First' you can visit the other venues at any time, where you will encounter up to 25 chapters before returning to hear 'Last'. You do not have to hear all of the other chapters, although it is preferable, and they will be read to you whenever you arrive and find Bryan (B.S. Johnson).

In most locations Bryan will be easy to find; in others you may have to search a little. Bryan may be male or female, old or young, tall or short. We will make it as easy as possible to identify him/her. All you have to do is approach Bryan, sit down on the chair opposite (unless you are sitting next to Bryan in a car, or on a sofa in someone's house, or standing by a bookshelf) and the reading will begin.

If you arrive and Bryan is reading to another person you may either accompany the listener or wait until that reading is completed. No chapter will last more than ten minutes. Many are a lot shorter than this. If you do arrive when a reading of a longer chapter is in progress then Bryan will try to let you know how far into the chapter he/she is.

You should be able to navigate your way around the whole novel in around four to five hours, with the reading lasting around one and a half hours. In some of the spaces we will have control of everything that happens around Bryan, in others the outside world may intrude in unexpected and unforeseen ways. Many of the venues serve food and drink, although you are not obliged to buy anything at all.

Most of the readings are at ground level with easy access. If there are stairs to be used then this is detailed in the venue guide overleaf. **Please check the website above for the latest event updates and more information.**

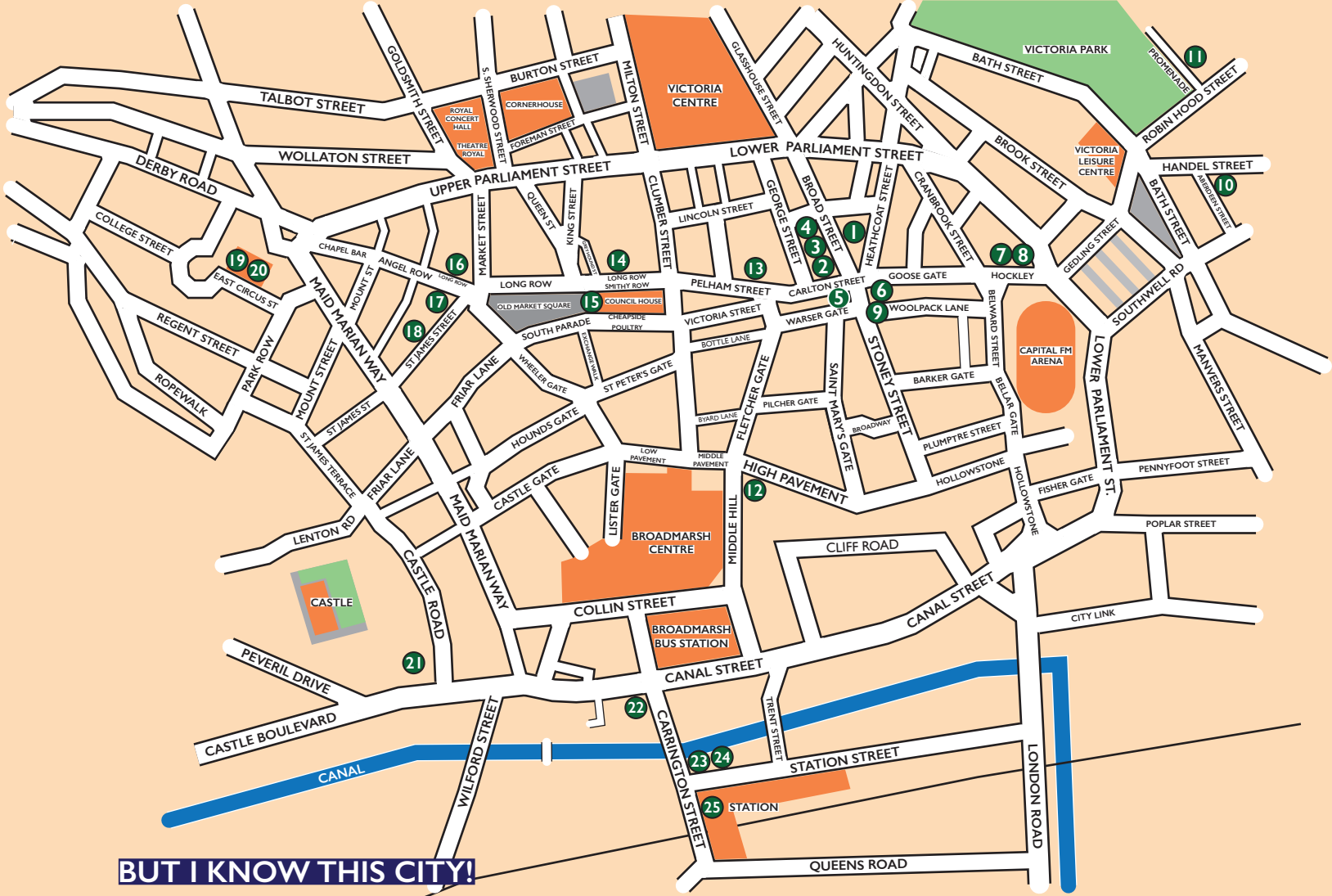
Enjoy your journey around this wonderful novel that conjures up a Nottingham of nearly fifty years ago; a novel which begins with the words "But I know this city!"

To launch this event Broadway will be screening a selection of B. S. Johnson's short films on Friday 20 November at 8.45pm. We are delighted to announce that this will be introduced by Johnson's biographer, the celebrated novelist Jonathan Coe.

Part of Being Human: A Festival of the Humanities 2015 12 – 22 November #BeingHuman15 @BeingHumanFest beinghuman.org



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**BUT I KNOW THIS CITY!**

## KEY TO READER LOCATIONS

All venues are open for the whole duration of the event unless otherwise stated.

- 1 Broadway Cinema - the Lounge** 14 - 18 Broad Street, NG1 3AL  
**First** 10.00am, then every half hour until the last reading at 3.30pm. **Last** 4.00pm, then every half hour until the last reading at 10.00pm.
- 2 Rough Trade - upstairs cafe bar**  
 5 Broad Street NG1 3AJ
- 3 Edin's Deli Cafe**  
 15 Broad Street NG1 3AJ  
 Bryan may be downstairs if the cafe is busy.
- 4 Lee Rosy's Tea Room**  
 17 Broad Street NG1 3AJ  
 Downstairs in the basement.
- 5 The Lofthouse - upstairs**  
 Unit 6, 35 Warser Gate NG1 INU  
 Ring the buzzer to the left of the door.
- 6 Bookwise and Classical CD**  
 10 Goose Gate NG1 2FF  
 Open until 9.30pm
- 7 City Arts**  
 11 - 13 Hockley NG1 1FH  
 There will be two Bryan's here.
- 8 Nottingham Writer's Studio**  
 25 Hockley NG1 1FF
- 9 The Old Angel**  
 7 Stoney Street NG1 1LG  
 Open from 11.00am.
- 10 Sneinton Market Car Park - a car**  
 Handel Street NG3 1JB  
 A silver/blue Alfa Romeo, registration WJ51 TUU.
- 11 11 The Promenade** NG3 1HB  
 This is a private house. The reading will take place in the ground floor front room.
- 12 Nottingham Contemporary - cafe bar**  
 Weekday Cross NG1 2GB
- 13 COB - Cobden Chambers**  
 Pelham St NG1 2ED  
 Open until 7.00pm.
- 14 Five Leaves Bookshop**  
 14a Long Row NG1 2DH  
 Open until 9.30pm
- 15 The Council House**  
 Old Market Square NG1 2DT  
 Bryan should be inside during the day, but otherwise located behind the left lion if outside.
- 16 Yates's Wine Lodge**  
 49 Long Row NG1 6JB  
 Bryan will probably be upstairs - have a good look around though.
- 17 The Bell Inn**  
 18 Angel Row NG1 6HL  
 Bryan will be in the front right-hand side bar.
- 18 The Malt Cross**  
 16 St James Street NG1 6FG  
 Bryan should be on the ground floor.
- 19 Nottingham Playhouse**  
 Wellington Circus NG1 5AF  
 Lower foyer. Bryan will be in a 'pod'.
- 20 Nottingham Playhouse**  
 Wellington Circus NG1 5AF  
 Upper foyer. Bryan will be in a 'pod'.
- 21 Ye Olde Trip to Jerusalem**  
 Brewhouse Yard NG1 6AD  
 Upstairs. Open from 11.00am.
- 22 Fellows, Morton and Clayton**  
 54 Canal Street NG1 7EH  
 A busy match day pub so please look carefully for Bryan! Open from 11.00am.
- 23 Bentinck Citizens Bar and Bistro**  
 Station Street NG2 3AJ  
 Upstairs.
- 24 Hopkinsons**  
 21 Station Street NG2 3AJ  
 Open until 8.30pm.
- 25 Nottingham Railway Station**  
 Carrington Street NG2 3AQ  
 Bryan will be situated in the foyer close to the Station Street entrance.