

Wendy Cope visits School

Wendy Cope, one of Britain's best loved poets visited the school on Wednesday 6th May to give an after-school poetry reading.

Wendy, who lives in Winchester studied history at St Hilda's College, Oxford and spent 15 years as a primary school teacher before turning to writing full-time. She was a television critic for *The Spectator* magazine until 1990.

Her poetry collections include *Making Cocoa* for Kingsley Amis (1986), *Serious Concerns* (1992) and *If I Don't Know* (2001), which was shortlisted for the Whitbread Poetry Award. She has edited a number of poetry anthologies including *The Orchard Book of Funny Poems* (1993), *Is That The New Moon?* (1989), *The Funny Side: 101 Humorous Poems* (1998) and *The Faber Book of Bedtime Stories* (1999) and *Heaven on Earth: 101 Happy Poems* (2001). She is also the author of two books for children, *Twiddling Your Thumbs* (1988) and *The River Girl* (1991).

In 1998 she was the listeners' choice in a BBC Radio 4 poll to succeed Ted Hughes as Poet Laureate. Her latest book, *Two Cures for Love* (2008) is a selection of previous poems with notes, together with new poems.