

St Andrew's *Book Festival*



25 NOVEMBER - 1 DECEMBER 2024



Ian Rankin



Ann Cleeves



Alexander McCall Smith



Chitra Ramaswamy



Gavin Esler



Lorraine Kelly



Judy Murray



Andrew O'Hagan



Jackie Kay

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at www.standrewsbookfestival.org

Scots in
London



Bringing People Together

WE ARE FORGED BY THE STORIES WE TELL.

Scots in London originates in the discovery and delight of shared stories. In 2018, for the 100th Anniversary of the Armistice, the congregation of St Columba's, Pont Street wanted to tell a powerful tale – of the hospitality shown to 50,000 transiting troops through wartime London – richly recorded in Church Magazines of the era. Unsurprisingly, other long-established, London-based, Scottish associations had similar fascinating stories. From those conversations a series of collaborative Scots in Great War London events - musical, cultural, educational, and prayerful - were undertaken, including publication of Scots in Great War London: A Community at Home and On the Front Line 1914 – 1918.

Afterwards, our Royal Patron, The Princess Royal challenged: “What are you going to do next?” The “next” is Scots in London – launched with a Gala Evening (October 2023) and celebrated with an inaugural Ceilidh (March 2024). Scots in London brings together cultural societies, sports clubs, alumni groups, charities, churches and the Scottish military in London. We promote heritage and culture, co-ordinate members' events, support relevant charities, and seek to enhance the life of the city where we reside. Achieving together, considerably more than we can alone. Scots in London presenting the first St Andrew's Book Festival is testimony to that.

My thanks to all involved in establishing this wonderful new venture and warm welcome to all who are drawn to it. May the Festival bring engaging encounters, new perspectives, firm friendships, kindling delight and discovery – forged by the stories we tell.



Reverend Angus MacLeod
Convenor, Scots in London Forum

WELCOME TO ST. ANDREW'S BOOK FESTIVAL 2024

This inaugural St Andrew's Book Festival brings together best-selling and debut authors with their readers in a celebration of Scotland's culture and heritage in the heart of London. The Festival is brought to you by Scots in London, an umbrella organisation that is made up of a diverse range of Scottish organisations across the capital. Over the week you can enjoy a wide-ranging programme, from spoken word and fiction, to history, politics, geography and more. Thank you to all our speakers, supporters and sponsors, and to you for joining us.

PUBLIC EVENTS	Pages... 6-17
FAMILY & SCHOOL EVENTS	Pages... 18-19



SCAN THE QR CODE

to book tickets for Festival events, or visit the Festival website: www.standrewsbookfestival.org

FOREWORD BY OUR ROYAL PATRON, HRH THE PRINCESS ROYAL

Between them, the organisations of Scots in London share more than one thousand years of presence and activity in the capital. As Royal Patron of the Scots in London Group, I am pleased that these organisations have combined to offer an ambitious and wide-ranging new venture. The St. Andrew's Book Festival is a wonderful vehicle for bringing people together, encouraging authors and readers of all ages and interests, and highlighting the creativity and contribution of Scots, in the heart of this most international city.

To all our guest speakers and attendees, I wish you an inspiring week; wide horizons, profound perspectives and convivial companions, old and new, gifts that good books surely bring.



Festival Office: St Andrew's Book Festival. Organised by Scots in London Events Ltd, a company limited by guarantee. **Registered address:** C/O The Caledonian Club, 9 Halkin Street, London, SW1X info@standrewsbookfestival.org

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The Burns Club of London

wishes every success to the
Scots In London Book Festival

~ ~ ~

Do join us for some of our 2025 activities

January

Annual Burns Celebrations

Fri 24th Wreath-laying ceremony at Burns's statue followed by Lunch

Sat 25th Birthday Festival Dinner at the Caledonian Club with noted speakers followed by ceilidh dancing

and guest speakers and other entertainment at our meetings during the year

Membership £20 pa, non-members also welcome

More details from secretary@bccl.org.uk

www.burnscluboflondon.org.uk

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www.linkedin.com/company/the-burns-club-of-london



PRESTONFIELD

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To celebrate St Andrew's Book Festival, Prestonfield House is delighted to offer you the chance to *win a luxury 2 night stay with Champagne Dinner for two and 1st Class return UK train tickets.*

To purchase your tickets for the Book Festival and how to enter this amazing prize visit standrewsbookfestival.org

prestonfield.com

PLANNING YOUR VISIT

HOW TO BUY TICKETS

ONLINE through TicketSource at:
www.standrewsbookfestival.org
 Essential companions are entitled to a free ticket by emailing
info@standrewsbookfestival.org

BUYING BOOKS

A team from Dulwich Village Books will sell copies of the authors' books after each event and most authors will stay after their talks to sign them.

EVENTS

All events last one hour unless otherwise stated. Some children's events are shorter. Children under 14 years of age must be accompanied by a responsible adult, each with their own ticket.

VENUES

Monday and Tuesday evening events (25-26 November) take place at **Scotland House in Blackfriars** (58 Victoria Embankment, EC4Y 0DS) plus a special Tuesday evening event hosted by sponsors **Fundment in Fitzrovia** (58-60 Berners Street, W1T 3NQ). Thursday to Sunday programme (28 November - 1 December) take place at **St Columbas' Church in Knightsbridge** (Pont Street, SW1X 0BD).

Gala Dinner on Friday 29 November takes place at **The Caledonian Club in Belgravia** (9 Halkin Street, SW1X 7DR).

Weekday schools' programme and Saturday family programme take place at **St Columbas' Church** (Pont Street, SW1X 0BD).

ACCESSIBILITY

Our venues have varying accessibility. Step-free access is available at all our venues via either ramps or lifts.

Accessible toilets are available at all our venues and Scotland House also has gender neutral toilets. Hearing loops are available at St Columbas' Church in The Sanctuary and at Scotland House.

There is one blue badge parking bay available outside St Columbas' Church and pay and display parking is available around the building. Where possible we would advise travelling by public transport to all our venues.

TRAVEL & TIMINGS

Scotland House: nearest tube station is Blackfriars (Circle and District Lines and National Rail Services)

St Columbas': nearest tube stations are Knightsbridge (Piccadilly Line) and Sloane Square (Circle and District Lines)

The Caledonian Club: nearest tube stations are Hyde Park Corner (Piccadilly Line) or Green Park (Piccadilly Line, Jubilee and Victoria Lines)

Fundment Offices: nearest tube station is Tottenham Court Road (Central, Elizabeth and Northern Lines).

FOOD & DRINK

Drinks will be on sale before all our evening events on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. A few of our events include a welcome drink in the ticket price. This will be indicated in the event description. Light refreshments will be on sale on Saturday. There are also cafes and restaurants near all of our venues.

REFUNDS

Refunds are only issued if the event itself is cancelled.

We hope you enjoy your visit to the St Andrew's Book Festival.

MONDAY 25 NOVEMBER



6:30-8:30pm: A Spoken Word Stramash: The Opening Gala

Find herein: former Makars / National Poets, author provocateurs, performers that



trot the tightrope between poetry, spoken word, hip-hop and the kooky realms in-between. Multi-genre, multifaceted, multi-thrilled – our all-star cast of lexical

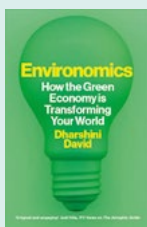
butter churners span genres and generations. We give you: **Bee Asha**, **Liz Lochhead**, **Jackie Kay**, **Bill Drummond** and **Michael Pedersen** – our vivacious host and guest curator. **Scotland House, 58 Victoria Embankment, EC4Y ODS. £15**

Supported by the National Library of Scotland

Ticket includes a welcome drink on arrival, followed by a pay bar

TUESDAY 26 NOVEMBER

An Evening at Fundment with Dharshini David & Andrew Marr



6:15pm: Dharshini David: The Economy and the Green Pound.

As the UK struggles with its economy and faces the challenges of transitioning to net zero, the BBC's Chief

Economics Correspondent, **Dharshini David**, talks to **Hugh Pym** about her latest book, *Environomics*, which deals with the impact of the green pound.

Ticket includes a welcome drink on arrival

7:15-8pm: Book signing and networking

TUESDAY 26 NOVEMBER



SALTIRE
SOCIETY
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NA H-ALBA

6:30-8:30pm: Saltire Society First Book Award Showcase,

in partnership with The Scotsman

The Jury has decided: Join three of our acclaimed shortlisted Saltire First Book Award authors **Nuala Watt**: *The Department of Work and Pensions Assesses a Jade Fish*, **Allan Radcliffe**: *The Old Haunts* and **Elle Machray**: *Remember, Remember*, for an evening with *The Scotsman's* **David Robinson**.

They explore their work and what being shortlisted for this esteemed award means to them as authors and for their career. Past winners include A.L.Kennedy, Jackie Kay, Ali Smith and Michel Faber. Chaired by *The Scotsman's* **David Robinson**.

Scotland House, 58 Victoria Embankment, EC4Y ODS. £12

Supported by The Scotsman

Ticket includes a welcome drink on arrival



8pm: Andrew Marr in Conversation with Hugh Pym

“The truth is, ‘what is a journalist?’ is one of those questions for which there is

no proper answer. The prehistory of modern journalism shows it has been a ragged and confusing trade all the way through.” Join political editor of the *New Statesman* **Andrew Marr** and BBC News Health Editor **Hugh Pym** as they talk about Andrew's life and work.

Fundment, 58-60 Berners Street, W1T 3NQ £25 for both events (not sold separately)

Supported by Fundment

THURSDAY 28 NOVEMBER

All events on Thursday 28 November are at St Columba's Church, Pont Street, SW1X 0BD



6pm: Damian Barr: Maggie & Me

Maggie & Me is a touching and darkly witty memoir about surviving Thatcher's Britain; a story of growing up gay in a straight world and coming out the other side in spite of, and maybe because of, the iron lady. **Damian Barr** discusses the book, and turning it into a hit



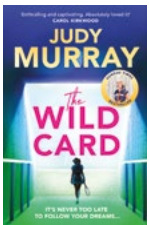
stage play with **Sam Baker**.

£10



6:15pm: Judy Murray: The Wild Card

Judy Murray is a former Scottish international tennis player with 64 national titles to her name. She is also a former GB Womens team Captain. She talks to **Georgina Godwin** about her high-stakes novel set in the world she knows best. Tennis fans will love the



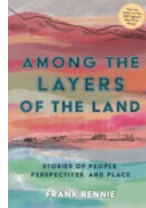
fictional Abigail Patterson who is forced to abandon a promising junior tennis career at 17. But 20 years later after a wild card entry to Wimbledon, she suddenly finds herself swept up in a world she thought she'd left behind.

£12



7:15pm: James Crawford and Frank Rennie: Love of Landscape

Frank Rennie (*Among the Layers of the Land*), Professor of Sustainable Rural Development at the University of the Highlands and Islands, and **James Crawford** (*Wild History: Journeys into Lost Scotland*) who wrote and presented *Scotland from the Sky* on BBC1 Scotland, take us on an adventure



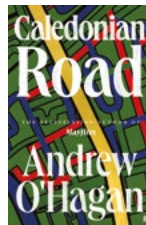
that expertly glorifies a love of the landscapes of Scotland and its borders. In conversation with **Phoebe Smith**.

£10



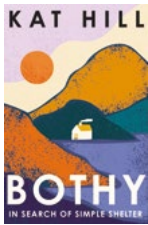
7:45pm: Andrew O'Hagan: Caledonian Road

Three-time Booker nominee and author of *Mayflies* **Andrew O'Hagan**, on his latest *Sunday Times* bestselling novel *Caledonian Road*. A biting portrait of British class, politics, and money told through five interconnected families



and their rising and declining fortunes. Andrew's new Dickensian novel sets Campbell Flynn, a famous Scottish art historian, among a dizzyingly diverse cast of characters with whom his life becomes entangled. In conversation with **Damian Barr**.

£12



8:30pm: Kat Hill:
Bothy: In Search of Shelter

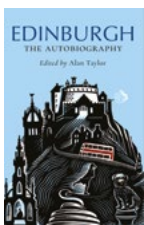
An exploration into the mystery, history and quiet wonder that are bothies. **Kat Hill** reveals the history of these wild

mountain shelters and the people who visit them. With an historian's insight and a rambler's imagination, she lends fresh consideration to the concepts of nature, wilderness and escape. All the while, Kat weaves together her story of heartbreak and new purpose with those of her fellow wanderers, past and present. In conversation with **Phoebe Smith**.

£10

FRIDAY 29 NOVEMBER

All events on Friday 29 November are at **St Columba's Church, Pont Street, SW1X 0BD**, with the exception of the **Gala Dinner** (see details).



1:30pm: Alan Taylor:
Edinburgh: The Autobiography

From one of the earliest mentions of its name in the 6th century to the Covid lockdowns of the 21st, this is a magnificent

portrait of one of the world's great cities in its many iterations, from 'Edinburgh, the sink of abomination' to the Athens of the North, the home of the Enlightenment, the Festival City, the one-time Aids Capital of Europe and a Mecca for tourists seeking tartan tat. Fascinating stories of body snatching and murder, drunkenness and drug-taking, sex and shopping, as well as rants against inclement weather and the city council. **Alan Taylor** is a writer, editor, and well-known

journalist. He edited *Sunday Times* bestseller *Madly, Deeply - The Alan Rickman Diaries*. In conversation with **Rosemary Goring**.

£12

BOOK YOUR TICKETS HERE

SCAN THE QR CODE to book tickets for Festival events, or visit the Festival website: www.standrewsbookfestival.org



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3:15pm: Amelia Dalton: Pages from My Passport

Amelia Dalton's memoir takes us behind the scenes of adventure travel. Learning from her life on Scotland's intricate west coast, she hunted down

remote archipelagos, deserted beaches and tiny local museums to create unique expedition holidays. The St Kilda of the Indian Ocean and the Mull of the Mediterranean were her goals. During her travels she was abandoned on an unpopulated island, stung by a scorpion - and worse. A series of adventures and disasters - each chapter is a story of a different country. *'A good book for your suitcase'*, Alexander McCall Smith. Chaired by **Georgina Godwin**.

£10



4:30pm: The Hebridean Baker: The Scottish Cookbook

Born and raised on the Isle of Lewis, the Hebridean Baker, **Coinneach MacLeod**

is an international bestselling author who has captivated audiences worldwide. Drawing inspiration from his rich heritage, Coinneach has motivated his followers to bake, forage, learn Gaelic and savour a dram or two of whisky. In his latest title, *The Scottish Cookbook*, he takes readers on an irresistible culinary journey through the Hebrides, blending his recipes with folklore, stories and stunning photography. Join Coinneach in conversation with **Rhoda McDonald** as he shares the adventures and inspirations behind his work, promising to ignite your passion for Scotland's culinary traditions and the enchanting landscapes of the Hebrides.

£12



4:45pm: Rosemary Goring: Homecoming: The Scottish Years of Mary, Queen of Scots

Mary Queen of Scots shaped the nation like no other monarch; author, critic and

journalist **Rosemary Goring** brings to life this legendary queen exploring the Scottish years of early childhood and the period following her return to the country to reign. Brief though her time in Scotland was, her experience profoundly influenced who she was and what happened to her. Whether or not Mary Stuart emerges blameless or guilty, in this evocative retelling she can be seen for who she really was. In conversation with **Georgina Godwin**.

£10

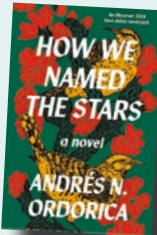
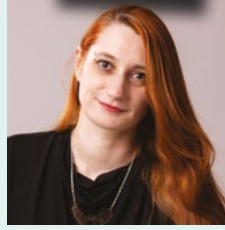


6pm: Lorraine Kelly: The Island Swimmer

Described as 'a cuddle in a book', the debut novel from much-loved broadcaster and National Treasure **Lorraine Kelly** has been inspired by her passion for the Orkney Islands and its people including the mythical Scottish Selkie. Join her as she talks to **Sam Baker** about her tale of family rifts and difficult reunions, set on the island of Orkney.



£12



6:15pm: Creative Scotland Debut's Showcase

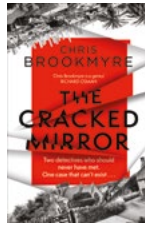
Join the Next Big Things for Scottish Literature, four of Scotland's best debut authors in conversation about their writing, their lives and their creative journeys. Saltire First Book Award shortlisted **Genevieve Jagger**, author of *Fragile Animals*; **Lynsey May**, author of *Weak Teeth*; **Andrés Ordorica**, author of *How We Named the Stars*; and **Chris Carse Wilson**, author of *Fray*, talk to **Mairi Kidd** about their journey to publication and beyond.

£10

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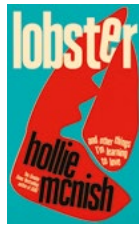
7:30pm: Chris Brookmyre: The Cracked Mirror



Award-winning author **Chris Brookmyre** showcases his new novel - a cross-genre hybrid of Agatha Christie and Michael Connelly, a genre-splicing rollercoaster with a poignantly emotional heart. A sweet old lady sleuth with a razor sharp

mind in twinset and tweeds and a hard-boiled LAPD homicide detective join forces within a story that promises to redefine your idea of what a crime novel can do. In conversation with **Lexie Elliott**.

£12

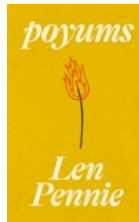


7:45pm: Poetry to the Power of POW: Hollie McNish & Len Pennie

Join two best-selling poets who've taken the country by storm with their stunning books, performative panache and enthralling online outputs. Collectively **Hollie McNish** and **Len Pennie** have garnered tens of millions of online views and sold tens of thousands of books. Expect strong language,

sharp tongues, and deftly crafted, no holds bars stanzaic splendour. With compere **Michael Pedersen**, they'll be performing from their new books *Lobster* and *Poyums*.

£12



GALA DINNER AND DRINKS RECEPTION



6:30pm: Drinks Reception

7:15pm: Gala Dinner with Sir Alexander McCall Smith

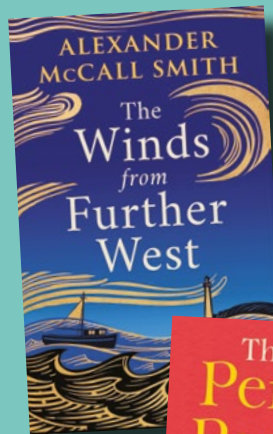
A not to be missed exclusive evening of fun and laughter with one of Scotland's multi award-winning, best-loved and most prolific authors, 'Sandy' McCall Smith is a raconteur with boundless jollity and endless stories. Follow Scottish tradition with pipers, four courses of delicious gourmet food and a toast with fine wines and maybe even a wee dram...

**The Caledonian Club,
9 Halkin Street, SW1X 7DR
£150**

**Black Tie or Highland Dress
Ticket includes**

- Pre-dinner drinks reception
- Four course dinner with accompanying wines
- After dinner speech by Alexander McCall Smith
- Book signing

Supported by Bruce Jack Wines and SpiritFilled





Shaped by visionary architecture, St Columba's offers activity and oasis, peace and prayer.

Serving Scots and Presbyterians from around the world, our building welcomes a wide community and witnesses a lot of life – performing arts classes, schools, support groups and drop-in dinners for homeless guests. All the while we worship God through Sunday worship and services marking life's great events, growing together and seeking to serve.

We are delighted to welcome you to the events of the **St Andrew's Book Festival 2024** and whatever your tradition of prayer, or none, to:
The Festival Service
11.00am
Sunday 1 December



SCAN for more information



www.stcolumbas.org.uk

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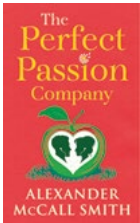
SATURDAY 30 NOVEMBER

All events on Saturday 30 November are at St Columba's Church, Pont Street, SW1X 0BD



11am: Alexander McCall Smith

Join the hilarity with **Alexander McCall Smith**, multi award winning author of too many books to count including the *No1 Ladies Detective Agency* series, *44 Scotland Street* and his latest books *The Perfect Passion Company* and *The Winds from Further West*. In conversation



with **Georgina Godwin**.

£12



12:30pm: Alistair Moffat: The Highlands and Islands of Scotland: A New History

Alistair Moffat is one of Scotland's most respected and popular historians - he has a vast knowledge of all aspects of Scottish culture with nearly a quarter of a million books sold to date in the UK. This 'hiking historian' is a

former head of ITV Drama, an early director of Edinburgh Festival Fringe, and a broadcaster and BAFTA winning programme maker. His new book is the definitive history of the Highlands and Islands of Scotland, from prehistory to the present day, encompassing the landscape, the people, the beliefs, the languages, the stories and the symbols that have made Scotland.

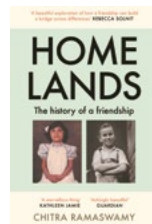
£10



12:30pm: Gavin Esler & James Naughtie: What Have We Done to the UK & USA?

Political experts and broadcasters **Gavin Esler** (*Britain is Better Than This*) and **James Naughtie** (*The Spy Across the Water*) discuss current affairs in Britain and USA. Are both nations in deep crisis, and what can be done? Is democracy in danger? **Hugo Rifkind** poses the questions - whether it's Harris, Biden, Trump, Sunak, Johnson or Starmer, is it the same struggle for power, where might it end? And where do Putin and President Xi fit in?

£12

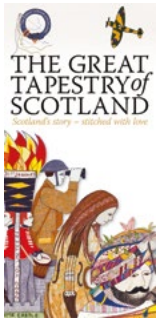


2pm: Chitra Ramaswamy: Homelands: The History of a Friendship

Chitra Ramaswamy tells the story of her unlikely friendship with German Jewish refugee, Henry Wuga, who came

across on Kindertransport age 12. Herself the child of Indian immigrant parents, Chitra explores who gets to be Glaswegian and the commonalities of migrant experiences. *Homelands* won the Saltire Non-Fiction Book of the Year and was included in *The Guardian's* top memoirs and biographies of 2022. Chaired by **Georgina Godwin**.

£10



3:30pm: Alistair Moffat and Jan Rutherford: The Great Tapestry of Scotland

The seed of the idea for the Great Tapestry of Scotland came from Alexander McCall Smith. He shared his dream with historian **Alistair Moffat** and artist Andrew Crummy.

Together with stitcher Dorie Wilkie and project director **Jan Rutherford**, they set about raising the money required and gathering volunteer stitchers to create the longest stitched tapestry in the world. It tells the people's story of Scotland from ice age to present day. It took more than 1,000 volunteer stitchers 50,000 hours + to complete. In conversation with **Marcus Railton**.

£10



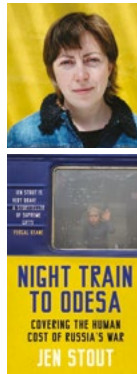
4pm: Ann Cleeves: Shetland & Vera

Vera, *Shetland* and more recently *The Long Call* series, are all now iconic TV detective dramas adored by millions around the world. When DCI Vera Stanhope is called out to investigate you can be sure of dark secrets hidden in a community, suspenseful twists, turns and a

surprising ending every time. Author **Ann Cleeves** talks to **Sam Baker** about how she creates incredible stories around her kitchen table.

Supported by ScotsCare - the charity for Scots in London

£12



5pm: Jen Stout: Night Train to Odessa

When Russian tanks rolled into Ukraine, millions of lives changed in an instant. A country was suddenly on the move. In this great flow of people was a reporter from Fair Isle, the remotest inhabited island of the British Isles the Satire First Book Award shortlisted, **Jen Stout**.

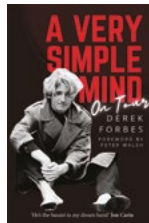
Gavin Esler gets to the heart of what it is really like to be that journalist, covering the human cost of Russia's war.

£10



6pm: Derek Forbes: A Very Simple Mind

Simple Minds' bassist and music maker **Derek Forbes**, talks through this vivid account of his life with **Duncan Steer**. The highs and the lows, the riotously funny and the not so. From his early days and growing up in inner city Glasgow to touring the world with Simple Minds. His



stories run helter-skelter through his years of rock & roll.

£12

FOR FAMILY & SCHOOL EVENTS

PLEASE SEE PAGES 18-19



6:30pm: Hugo Rifkind: Rabbits

The witty *Times* columnist and Times Radio presenter **Hugo Rifkind** has turned to fiction with a sinister and hilarious tale that Val McDermid calls as 'darkly funny as *Saltburn*, but with kilts'. Set in the early 90s, meet Tommo, out of his depth socially but seduced

by the hedonism of a fading elite, who discovers there are secrets that everyone knows, but no one speaks about or even acknowledges. And those secrets can no longer be hidden. Chaired by **Lexie Elliott**.

£10



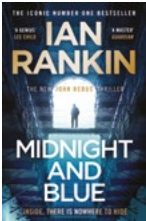
8pm: Ian Rankin: Midnight and Blue

For more than 30 years the multi award-winning author **Ian Rankin** has entertained and thrilled us with John Rebus novels tackling Edinburgh's grim underbelly and the dark side of the city. Celebrating his 25th Rebus novel, *Midnight and Blue*, Ian (who was knighted in 2023 for

services to literature and charity) talks to **Georgina Godwin**.

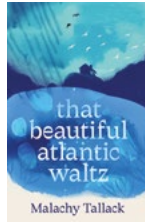
Event supported by Prestonfield House

£12



8pm: Malachy Tallack & Colin MacIntyre: Harmonies in Words and Music

Malachy Tallack recently released his new novel, *That Beautiful Atlantic Waltz*, alongside an album of the same name – comprised of songs written by the book's protagonist. **Colin MacIntyre** is a singer,



songwriter, and multi-instrumentalist. He has released nine albums, predominantly under the name Mull Historical Society, and his latest book is called *When the Needle Drops*. Both highly acclaimed authors and musicians, through conversation and live acoustic spots, will mix the harmonies of music and words

with **Marcus Railton**.

£10

BOOK YOUR TICKETS HERE

SCAN THE QR CODE to book tickets for Festival events, or visit the Festival website: www.standrewsbookfestival.org



SUNDAY 1 DECEMBER

All events on Saturday 30 November are at St Columba's Church, Pont Street, SW1X 0BD



11am: Festival Service

The last day of the St Andrew's Book Festival begins by celebrating a week of wonderful encounters. The joint congregations of St Columba's,

Pont Street and Crown Court Church of Scotland invite you to a service of celebration, giving thanks for the gift of authors, readers and the pleasure and power of books. In the 1880's when the congregation of St Columba's was established, the first group to be founded was the Literary Society. Over a hundred years later our community will be delighted to welcome all who share the love of books - whatever your tradition of prayer, or none, we will be glad to see you. **Reverend Neil Glover**, author of *Finding Our Voice* is guest preacher.

FREE, all welcome



1:15-2pm Reverend Neil Glover, *Finding Our Voice*

Many books have been written about the renewal of the Church, but few from the perspective of

mainstream Anglican, Presbyterian and Methodist Churches. These Churches have faced particularly sharp declines over the last fifty years. In this book

Neil Glover traces the story of this decline and identifies its root causes. Very often these churches seek renewal by copying approaches which have worked in more conservative denominations, or try to reorganise and restructure themselves towards renewal, or simply give up altogether. Neil shows that these churches will be renewed when they rediscover their unique identity, and embrace their most important gifts - a commitment to community and 'spiritual localism', and a passion for the scriptures, justice, creativity and the rhythms of sabbath. In conversation with **Rev Scott Rennie**. **FREE, all welcome**



2:30pm: Sara Sheridan and Fiona Gibson

Come along and be inspired by these two very different writers of fiction. **Sara Sheridan** says "History is a treasure chest of stories" wonderfully explored in her enchanting and gripping new novel set in 1846, *The Secrets of Blythwood Square*.



Fiona Gibson's books are described as hilarious, sparky and joyful and

she takes us on the journey of discovery for three old friends facing the prospect of Christmas 500 miles from home, in her latest book *Tis the (damn) Season*. Sara and Fiona talk to **Sam Baker** about the portrayal of light and darkness in fiction.

£10

FAMILY EVENTS

SATURDAY 30 NOVEMBER

All events on Saturday 30 November are at St Columba's Church, Pont Street, SW1X 0BD



10-10:45am: Susi Briggs: Yum and other Scots stories
Age 3-9

Scots Scriever, storyteller and author **Susi Briggs** will be

showcasing her award winning Scots language picture books *Yum*, *Wheesht* and the melodic *Nip Nabs* series. An enchanting exploration of Scots language featuring original stories where you will meet a singing dug, a hungry moose, a sleepy sheep and lots of funny wee pixies.

FREE, but booking essential



11am: Joseph Elliott: Nora and the Map of Mayhem

Age 6-11

Star of Cbeebies *Swashbuckle*, **Joseph Elliott** will be introducing his outrageously funny new book *Nora and the Map of Mayhem*. When Atticus and Autumn's dads leave them with their eccentric great-grandmother Nora for

the weekend, they're hoping for a few days scoffing biscuits and playing video games. But when Nora's around, nothing ever goes quite to plan... 'I LOVE IT! Nora is hilarious and wild and a terrible influence on children. Exactly the kind of anarchy I love', Louie Stowell, author of *LOKI*.

£5



2pm: Rob Biddulph
Age 5+

Join award-winning author and illustrator and festival favourite **Rob Biddulph** in this fun-packed family event. In a session fizzing with laughs, creativity and of course drawing, Rob will bring to life his award-winning picture books and be introducing his brand new picture



book *I Follow the Fox*. Have your pencils at the ready as everyone will learn to draw one of Rob's newest characters step-by-step in one of his famous Draw with Rob draw-alongs!

Event supported by ScotsCare - the charity for Scots in London
£5

BOOK YOUR TICKETS HERE

SCAN THE QR CODE to book tickets for Festival events, or visit the Festival website: www.standrewsbookfestival.org



SCHOOL EVENTS

All school events take place at St Columba's Church, Pont Street, SW1X 0BD

If you are a school or involved in home educating and wish to attend school events please email us on info@standrewsbookfestival.org to book your place.

TUESDAY 26 NOVEMBER



10:30am: Joseph Coelho SCHOOL EVENT

Age 5+

Join award-winning author, and former Children's Laureate **Joseph Coelho** for a fantastic, fun-packed poetry performance as he shows us that poems are made to be read

OUT LOUD! Joseph will lead an interactive and

engaging reading from his 'Out Loud' poetry series before penning a new poem with the help of the audience. Have fun guessing riddles, powering up your poetry skills, and discovering all sorts of clever ways to perform poetry!



12:30pm: Kate Abernethy SCHOOL EVENT

Age 3-6

Uh-oh! There's a great Highland Games chase afoot when a cheeky

Scottie dog runs off with a delicious looking hat! Join **Kate Abernethy** for this laugh-out-loud event based around her brilliant picture book *The Great Highland Games Chase*. With plenty of rhyming, counting, props and chaos, this fun interactive event is perfect for children aged 3+.

WEDNESDAY 27 NOVEMBER



11am: James Campbell SCHOOL EVENT

Age 7-11

James Campbell's

latest book is called *Don't Panic: We CAN Save the Planet*. In this hilarious session he will

talk about all the different ways that young people can make a difference which might include growing some vegetables, flying to the moon, writing rude letters to your member of parliament and taking your poo to Legoland. James Campbell is a veteran of school visits. In the last 30 years he has visited over 3000 schools despite being really young. As far as we know, no other children's author has been to as many schools as he has - or wants to.



12:30pm: Mike Nicholson SCHOOL EVENT

Age 6-9

Some people think that museums are boring places full of glass cases, dust and stuff no one cares about: wrong!

In a hidden headquarters below the exhibits there's a gang ready to handle dangerous, spooky or just plain weird problems: the *Museum Mystery Squad*. In the *Case from Outer Space*, the Squad investigate puzzling planets, amazing astronauts and marvellous moon rocks to try to solve their latest mystery. Join author **Mike Nicholson** for a fun-filled, interactive event exploring his series of quirky, heavily illustrated chapter books. Discover fascinating space facts, create wacky inventions and take off on an out of this world adventure!

FESTIVAL TEAM AND SUPPORTERS

Management Team Leads:

Paul McFarland, Hugh Pym and Malcolm Noble

Festival Coordinator:

Jennifer Rowland

Social Media and Marketing Officer:

Marcus Railton

Volunteers and Schools Coordinator:

Susan Pym

Programming Team:

Jo James and Lyndy Cooke

Media Partner - The Scotsman:

Alan Young (Editor), Roger Cox and Robert Harris

Village Books Dulwich Manager:

Hazel Broadfoot

Scots in London Management Team:

Paul McFarland, David Coughtrie, Shona Fleming, Malcolm Noble, Hugh Pym

Convenor, Scots in London:

Revd Angus MacLeod

We would like to thank all our **Scots in London organisations** for their support of our Festival. Particular thanks go to our Scots in London host venues: The Caledonian Club, Scotland House and St Columbas' Church.

We are also very grateful for our **Festival Corporate Sponsors** - headline sponsors Fundment and Prestonfield House, Bruce Jack Wines and Sprititfilled for their support of our Gala Dinner and *The Scotsman*, our Media Partner - without whom this Festival would not have been possible.

Particular thanks go to Fundment for hosting an evening at their offices, to Prestonfield House for providing us with a special launch event in Edinburgh and for their extensive coverage of our Festival.

Thank you to our **individual event sponsors**: The National Library of Scotland for sponsoring our Spoken Word Showcase, *The Scotsman* for sponsoring the Saltire Awards First Book Award Event, ScotsCare for supporting our Rob Biddulph and Ann Cleeves events. Thanks also to the Caledonian Sleeper for providing us with complimentary travel for our authors.

This Festival would not be possible without our **funders**: Creative Scotland who are supporting our Debuts Showcase and helping us develop a cross-border audience. We have also been supported using public funding by the National Lottery through Arts Council England.

We would like to extend our thanks to everyone who has supported our Festival by becoming a Festival Friend or Member, your support has helped us make this first ever St Andrew's Book Festival happen.

Special thanks to our participating authors, their publishers, the chairs, and the many hardworking volunteers who donate their time free of charge, and without whom the St Andrew's Book Festival would be much less fun!

Information is correct at time of going to press on 15 October 2024. Programme and other details subject to change. More events may be added - see posters, notice boards and Festival website for updates: www.standrewsbookfestival.org

Our Scots in London Organisations



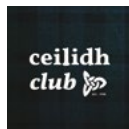
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Our Presbyterian congregation at Crown Court Church has been worshipping and serving in the heart of Covent Garden since 1711.

We are an open and inclusive church community, and our members come from many different cultures, generations and walks of life. Together we seek to follow Christ, and to learn what it means to be Christian in the modern world.

Whoever you are and whatever your story, you'll find a warm welcome awaits you at our weekly service.

Join us for worship and fellowship at 11.15am every Sunday, in person or online.



www.crowncourtchurch.org.uk

Scottish Charity number: SC042648

EVENTS AT A GLANCE

TIME	EVENT TITLE	VENUE
Monday 25 November		
18:30-20:30	A Spoken Word Stramash: The Opening Gala	Scotland House
Tuesday 26 November		
10:30-11:30	Joseph Coelho - SCHOOLS EVENT	St Columba's
12:30-13:30	Kate Abernathy - SCHOOLS EVENT	St Columba's
18:15-21:00	An Evening with Dharshini David and Andrew Marr	Fundment
18:30-20:30	Saltire Society First Book Award Showcase	Scotland House
Wednesday 27 November		
11:00-12:00	James Campbell - SCHOOLS EVENT	St Columba's
12:30-13:30	Mike Nicholson - SCHOOLS EVENT	St Columba's
Thursday 28 November		
18:00-19:00	Damian Barr: Maggie & Me	St Columba's
18:15-19:15	Judy Murray: Wild Card	St Columba's
19:15-20:15	James Crawford and Frank Rennie: Love of Landscape	St Columba's
19:45-20:45	Andrew O'Hagan: Caledonian Road	St Columba's
20:30-21:30	Kat Hill: Bothy - In Search of Shelter	St Columba's
Friday 29 November		
13:30-14:30	Alan Taylor: Edinburgh - A History	St Columba's
15:15-16:15	Amelia Dalton: Pages from My Passport	St Columba's
16:30-17:30	The Hebridian Baker: The Scottish Cookbook	St Columba's
16:45-17:45	Rosemary Goring: Mary Queen of Scots	St Columba's
18:00-19:00	Lorraine Kelly: The Island Swimmer	St Columba's
18:15-19:15	Debuts Showcase	St Columba's
19:30-20:30	Chris Brookmyre: The Cracked Mirror	St Columba's
19:45-20:45	Hollie McNish & Len Pennie: Poetry	St Columba's
18:45-22:00	Gala Dinner with Alexander McCall Smith	Caledonian Club
Saturday 30 November		
10:00-10:45	Susie Briggs: Yum and Other Scots Stories FAMILY EVENT	St Columba's
11:00-12:00	Alexander McCall Smith In Conversation	St Columba's
11:00-12:00	Joseph Elliott: Nora and the Map of Mayhem FAMILY EVENT	St Columba's
12:30-13:30	Gavin Esler & James Naughtie	St Columba's
12:30-13:30	Alistair Moffat: The Highlands and Islands of Scotland	St Columba's
14:00-15:00	Chitra Ramaswamy: Homelands	St Columba's
14:00-15:00	Rob Biddulph FAMILY EVENT	St Columba's
15:30-16:30	The Great Tapestry of Scotland: The Story of its Creation	St Columba's
16:00-17:00	Ann Cleeves: Shetland & Vera	St Columba's
17:00-18:00	Jen Stout: Night Train to Odesa	St Columba's
18:00-19:00	Derek Forbes: A Very Simple Mind	St Columba's
18:30-19:30	Hugo Rifkind: Rabbits	St Columba's
20:00-21:00	Malachy Tallack & Colin MacIntyre: Harmonies	St Columba's
20:00-21:00	Ian Rankin: Midnight and Blue	St Columba's
Sunday 1 December		
11:00-12:00	Festival Service	St Columba's
13:15-14:00	Finding Our Voice	St Columba's
14:30-15:30	Sara Sheridan and Fiona Gibson - Feel Good Fiction	St Columba's