

This year's festival will include: **Martin Bell, Sally Magnusson, Joanne Harris, Winnie Ewing, Jeremy Bowen, Bernard MacLaverty, Richard Holloway, Sheena MacDonald, Allan Little, Alan Taylor, Julia Donaldson, Monty Don, Libby Purves, Mairi Hedderwick, Cathy Cassidy, Miles Hilton Barber...**



INSPIRED BY BOOKS

SCOTLAND'S NATIONAL BOOK TOWN

WIGTOWN SIXTH ANNUAL LITERARY FESTIVAL 17TH-26TH SEPTEMBER

IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE

sundayherald

NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

"I fixed on Galloway as the best place to go. It was the nearest wild part of Scotland, so far as I could figure out, and from the look of the map was not over thick with population"

John Buchan, The 39 Steps.

Dumfries
& Galloway
Naturally inspiring

Welcome to the 6th Scottish Book Town Festival!

Whether this is your 1st or 101st visit, we wish you a very enjoyable festival in Wigtown, Scotland's National Book Town. Wigtown is a small market town on the Galloway coast, which boasts more old book shops than anywhere else in the country. Over the past few years we have become a Mecca for book lovers - offering an unparalleled choice of modern and historic publications covering every conceivable subject.

The Wigtown Literary Festival is an annual celebration of past and contemporary literature. Our idyllic surroundings provide both audience and orator with a sense of peaceful detachment from the usual pressures of life. Our numerous book shops provide absorbing sport for book lovers, whilst our malt whisky distillery provides spiritual support when required. Thought flourishes.

Within easy reach are the wild Galloway Hills, rugged coastline and the rolling greenness of traditional farmland - all peppered with welcoming faces and the occasional award-winning restaurant. So make sure you allow yourself plenty of time to explore.

If you are already familiar with literary festivals, you will need no reminding that such events are immune from inclement weather. All our venues are warm and dry and, understandably, the events actually get busier if it starts to rain. The Wigtown Literary Festival is a wonderful way to spend time recharging your body, feeding your mind and lifting your spirits.

By Train

National information Tel: 08457 484950
Nearest stations Barrhill and Dumfries then onward by bus

By Bus

National information Tel: 08705 808080
Local information Tel: 0870 608 2608

By Ferry

From Belfast
Stena Tel: 0870 600 0600
Seacat Tel: 08705 523 523

There is also a small bus with disabled ramp and trained staff to assist in transport between venues and/or arrival departure points.

DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY



INTRODUCTION

I am delighted to offer you the programme for the 2004 Wigtown Literary Festival. As you will see at a quick glance, the programme runs for ten days and features some of the finest writers in the land.

In the same way that Wigtown's status as National Book Town has made it one of Scotland's major cultural centres, so its Festival has become one of the flagship events in its literary calendar. In expanding the range and depth of our programme, we have, however, taken great pains to keep the Festival as intimate and personal as possible. Start the day with a hearty breakfast in the company of your favourite author or enjoy an evening feast at the inaugural Festival Dinner.

The programme covers Politics - from the independence of Martin Bell to the Independence of Winnie Ewing; Journalism - from the front line to the back row; History - from the trials of Mary Queen of Scots to the tribulations of the House of Windsor; Fiction - from the humorous to the adventurous; an eclectic mix of poetry, a riot of children's events; and a nail-biting selection of films.

To book tickets in advance (which is strongly advised) please fill out the booking form and send it to the Festival Office; to book accommodation please refer to the Tourist Board, or indulge in a web search for other properties; and for updates on the festival programme please consult our website and look out for the 16 page supplement in the Sunday Herald in early September.

And finally, a brief, but sincere thank you to the small team at the festival office and the army of volunteers that make the Wigtown Literary Festival such a wonderfully enjoyable occasion.

Michael McCreath
Festival Chairman

Festival Staff:

John Robertson - Project Manager
Jenny Bradley - Administration
Anne Brooks - Ticketing and IT

Festival Team:

Michael McCreath - Chairman
Grace Crichton
Betty McGowan
Donna Brewster
Sandra McDowall
Val Spernagel
Barbara Pryce
Ian Wood
Shaun Bythell
Terri Coy
Lynn Nield
David Sumner
Ian Duncanson
Cora Sharp
Fiona Murphie

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New for the Festival 2004

FRIDAY 17TH



Richard Holloway Looking in the Distance County Buildings 7pm (£8)

The former bishop of Edinburgh is well known as one of our finest writers and orators on moral philosophy.

At a time when we seek as much spiritual guidance as ever before, yet organised religion seems increasingly out of touch, Looking in the Distance offers a wonderful and liberating guide to living. *"We should live the fleeting day with passion and, when the night comes, depart from it with grace"* (part sponsored by ReadingLasses Bookshop-Café)



Robin Laing A Whisky Muse Bladnoch Distillery 9pm (£8)

Robin is a Scottish folk-singer and song writer who has created a one-man show on the subject of Scotch whisky called *'The Angels' Share'* - a powerful combination of two

of Robin's passions - folk song and whisky! Join Robin for a wee dram and enjoy an evening of old Scots Ballads or *'Muckle Sangs'* as they are sometimes known.

Film Review

Wigtown School - 7pm (£5)

"Criminal Minds" - Crime Writers cooperative in the company of Belle Doyle, Film Officer - South West Scotland Screen Commission. A discussion with selected Film Noir extracts on the influence the film and the novel have had on each other over the past 50 or so years.

Film Noir is a French term, literally translating as *'black film'*. It is used as a description of a style of film, loosely linked by style and content, that prospered in Hollywood in the decade or so after WWII.

SATURDAY 18TH

Gwendoline Riley Breakfast at ReadingLasses 10am (£6, Croissants and Coffee)

Gwendoline's first novel, *Cold Water*, stirred up a lot of literary fuss. At 22 she won a 2001 Betty Trask Award for first-time novelists; some say *'she's like Johnny Rotten - so unexpected, dry but precise'*.

David Mitchell - Cloud Atlas The Book Shop - 10.30am (£4)

In 2003 David Mitchell was named by Granta magazine as one of twenty *'Best of Young British Novelists'*. In his latest novel, *Cloud Atlas*, a young Pacific Islander witnesses the nightfall of science and civilisation, while questions of history are explored in a series of seemingly disconnected narratives.

Richard Holloway A Personal Journey - in discussion with Alan Taylor Distillery - 11am (£8)

Rather like Tony Benn standing down as an MP to spend more time on politics, so it seems that Richard Holloway has stood down from the Church to spend more time on religion. The former Bishop of Edinburgh discusses his life and work with the Sunday Herald's Alan Taylor.



Criminal Minds - The Crime Novel The School - 12 noon (£5)

Three authors from The Criminal Minds Group will be discussing... Why do authors write crime, and why do people read it? What makes a good crime novel? Is there too much blood and gore in contemporary crime fiction? Is there not enough? Are we all criminals at heart? Does crime fiction make us feel safe? Has it replaced horror in giving us the shivers? Do we want bad guys who are monsters, or who are all too human? Must good always triumph?

**KIDZFEST - 4 performances per day -
Each event £2.00 - Day ticket £6.00**
See page 18 for details.



Zoe Strachan Spin Cycle County Buildings 1pm (£5)

Born in 1975, Zoe Strachan grew up in Kilmarnock and now lives in Glasgow. She will be talking about her first novel *'Negative Space'*

and her latest novel *'Spin Cycle'* published in August 2004. As a tutor at Glasgow University on Creative Writing, Zoe will also answer general questions on writing and getting published.



Joanne Harris Jigs and Reels County Buildings 3pm (£8)

Joanne Harris will be talking about her international bestsellers *Chocolat*, *Blackberry Wine*,

Five Quarters of the Orange, *Coastliners* and *Holy Fools*. She has also written on cookery and her latest publication is a book of short stories - *Jigs and Reels*.

Morag Joss My Inspiration Marquee - 5pm (£5)

Morag will be talking about her latest psychological thriller *Half Broken Things* as well as her new novel to be published in 2005. She will also talk on what inspires and provokes her to write and the process of getting a novel written.

Dr Mike Jones

The Real Royal Family? School - 3pm (£5)

Is the real Royal Family living in Buckingham Palace? Mike Jones set off on the world wide trail to find the family who, but for a few historical accidents, perhaps should be sitting on the British throne.

A Grand Scottish Concert Bladnoch Distillery - 8pm (£4)

(supported by Gaelforce)

Featuring the one and only The Tartan Lads - Bill and Ray. Followed by a ceilidh. Just the right mix to relax to after a heavy day in the bookshops and literary clanjamfries.

Tickets available at Machars Information Office 01988 402633. Or Betty McGowan 01988 403224 (proceeds to Wigtown Community Fund)

An audience with Allan Little From Dunragit to Dubrovnik County Buildings - 5pm (£5)

The BBC's world affairs correspondent returns to his native Galloway to tell us where he's been for the past 25 years! Economic meltdown in Russia, the collapse of Yugoslavia.....

Sheena McDonald with Jack Hunter - My Desert Island Books

County Buildings
8pm (£8)

TV presenter Sheena talks to local author and historian Jack Hunter about the eight books she would take with her if she were stranded on a desert island.



Lady Molly of Scotland Yard - adapted by Rachel Laurence from stories of the Baroness Orczy Swallow Theatre - 7.30pm (£7)

What mysteries lie in the past of the woman they call *Lady Molly of Scotland Yard*? With a mixture of womanly wiles, an ingenious facility for disguise and a *"marvellous intuition of men and things"*, Lady Molly, Head of Scotland Yard's Female Department, leads her faithful assistant, Mary Granard, through a giddy series of bold adventures, ending with the greatest mystery of all.....who has stolen Lady Molly's own heart?

SUNDAY 19TH**Morag Joss and Eileen Ramsay
Breakfast at Web Books****Web Books - 10am (£6, Croissants and Coffee)**

Join Morag and Eileen for breakfast and enjoy an informal discussion about their experiences of writing books and the things that have inspired and influenced their work.

Joanne Harris**An audience with Joanne Harris
County Buildings - 11am (£8)**

Join us for a one to one interview with this popular and prolific writer and find out more about her life and her work.
(sponsored by Orange)

**Alasdair Campbell - The Nessman
The Book Shop - 11.30am (£4)**

Scottish writer Alasdair will be reading from his books, *The Nessman*, the story of a boy, Colin from Ness, between the ages of 7 and 19 and *Visiting the Bard*, a collection of short stories set in Lewis.

**Mairi Hedderwick
Shaking off Katie
Morag****The County Buildings
1.30pm (£5)**

Mairi is taking a break from *Katie Morag*, and while Katie gets up to her usual

mischievous, we get the pleasure of Mairi's company as she takes us through her journeys around the Hebrides.

**KIDZFEST - 4 performances per day -
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See page 18 for details.

**Allan Little, Jeremy Bowen and David
Pratt with Magnus Linklater****In Conflict with the Truth
Bladnoch Distillery 1.30pm (£8)**

What happens to the truth when war reports become a marketable commodity? After decades of free speech, is propaganda still war reporting's predominant force in post-Hutton Britain? Should we expect the whole truth from the front line, or

is all fair in love and war? The BBC's Allan Little and Jeremy Bowen are joined by the Herald's David Pratt, with well-known columnist Magnus Linklater in the chair.

Eileen Ramsay**Someday Somewhere
The School - 3pm (£5)**

Scottish author and poet Eileen Ramsay will be reading from her novel *Someday, Somewhere*, nominated for the Parker RNA Romantic Novel of the Year Award and her latest book *A Way of Forgiving*.

**Winnie Ewing and
Michael Russell****Stop the World
Bladnoch Distillery
3.30pm (£8)**

Instantly recognisable wherever she goes, Winnie Ewing is one of the most influential Scotswomen of her generation. Her nickname, '*Madame Ecosse*', testifies to the affection and respect in which she is held. Winnie is joined by her colleague and friend Michael Russell to discuss her frank, hard hitting and at times intimate autobiography. She tells not just her story but also the story of a fast moving era during which her country and her life changed completely.

**John Guy****My Heart is my Own: The Life of
Mary Queen of Scots
The County Buildings - 4pm (£5)**

The life of Mary Stuart is one of unparalleled drama and conflict. John Guy returns to the archives to explore the myths and correct the inaccuracies that surround this most fascinating monarch. He also provides new insight into a central mystery: why Mary would have consented to marry her second husband's killer.

Jill Vedebrand**Travels with my Sea Captain
The School 4.30pm (£4)**

Ayrshire writer Jill talks about her books *Travels With My Sea Captain*, a personal account of life on board a modern cargo ship and on a Scottish farm, and *Two Sailors*, a fast moving adventure story of life at sea in the fifties. She also talks about what inspired her to write them and invites the audience to ask questions.

Dr John Shepherd**George Lansbury: The Class Warrior
who led the Labour Party
The Book Shop - 5.30pm (£4)**

The author talks about George Lansbury, the Christian pacifist who led the Labour Party through the Depression years of the 1930s. He reaffirms Lansbury's standing at the heart of Old Labour and his importance to British politics as a whole.

**Jeremy Bowen****Six Days
County Buildings
7.30pm (£8)**

"It is the hardest thing I've ever done," Jeremy Bowen on the writing of *Six Days*

Understanding the situation in the Middle East at present

requires and understanding of the events of 1967. The BBC's former Middle East correspondent tells the dramatic story of Israel's crushing victory in the *Six Day War* and how it shaped the current conflict.

MONDAY 20TH**The Eccentric Alphabet with Hamish
McDonald****Letter T for Twa Tongues
Marquee - 7pm (£3)**

A sideweys luik at the Scots language ower a gey wheen centuries an its partial survival intae the present day.

The Eccentric Alphabet was set up just over a year ago by several of the book-shop owners to raise the profile of books to residents and visitors alike. The events take place every Monday evening and have developed a small but loyal audience which we hope to build on during this year's Festival. The Eccentric Alphabet name came about as it was nearly impossible to arrange the readings in standard alphabetical order (the first reading started with the letter W - for whisky and that set the scene). Intimate and friendly - always accompanied by a glass of wine - this is Wigtown at its best.

Hamish MacDonald is the current Robert Burns Writing Fellow for Dumfries and Galloway. He works as a playwright and novelist and has

adapted two of his plays into award winning radio series for BBC. Hamish is author of the novel *The Gravy Star* and has written fiction and poetry for popular Scots language imprint Itchy Coo Publishing.

The Makar Poets**County Buildings - 8pm (£5)**

Makar Poets is a poetry collective of four poets with an Ayrshire connection. They recently got together to publish their individual poetry collections and they will be reading from these books.

TUESDAY 21ST**Innes MacLeod - The Diary of a
Galloway Itinerant 1814-1843
Marquee - 2pm (£3)**

Galloway's favourite historian and author of *Discovering Galloway* talks about his most recent book: *a travelogue through Galloway in the early 1800s*, seen through the eyes of wandering preacher, David Gibson.

**Sue Rann - Mr Nobody
Marquee - 3.30pm (£3)**

Sue's first book *Looking for Mr Nobody*, is a compelling cyber thriller for the X-files generation - a fast-moving tale of crime and violence set in the Amsterdam underworld and its darker fringes. She will talk about the book and what inspired her to write it and will also answer questions on writing and publishing.

Alexis Scott**Eating Wolves****Marquee - 4.30pm (£3)**

Alexis Scott's new book *Eating Wolves*, is a black comedy set in contemporary Nice and Glasgow. It's about growing up and growing older, about how identity is shaped and reshaped and how art impinges on life and vice versa. Alexis will also talk about the challenges for new writers getting published.

**The Eccentric Alphabet
with Joseph Leckey****County Buildings - 7pm (£3)**

G is for Gardening and Garden Books and Joseph Leckey FRSAI is an expert on both. Joseph is a well known figure at Wigtown Literary Festivals and his contribution promises humour, controversy and a few surprises.

Bladnoch Distillery
Doors open at 7.00pm and
films commences at 7.30pm

The bar will be available to ticket
holders from 7.00pm until 7.30pm
and for an hour following the film.

FILM NOIR

MONDAY 20TH

THE MALTESE FALCON (£3.50)

Perhaps more of a thriller than a true noir, this film still has many of the noir elements, notably the gritty P.I. and a proto-femme fatale. Remade several times and under several different titles, the 1941 version, starring Humphrey Bogart and directed by John Huston, has become the standard. Based on a book by Dashiell Hammet, the plot tells of double-dealing in the search for the incredibly valuable eponymous statue - The Maltese Falcon.

TUESDAY 21ST

THE POSTMAN ALWAYS RINGS TWICE (£3.50)

Platinum blonde (Lana Turner) is Cora, a restless siren stuck in a roadside diner married to mundane middle-aged fry cook Nick Smith (Cecil Kellaway) when handsome drifter Frank (John Garfield) blows her way. It's lust at first sight, a rapacious desire that neither can break off, and before long they are planning his (Kellaway's) demise - but in the wicked world of Cain nothing is that easy.

A torrid tale of lust and murder, based on the novel by James M. Cain.

THURSDAY 23RD

THE BIG SLEEP (£3.50)

The Big Sleep (1946). Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall star in one of the most complex plots ever filmed. Legend has it that director Howard Hawks phoned writer Raymond Chandler to ask who committed one of the murders - and Chandler didn't know! Nevertheless, the script sizzles with wit as private eye Phillip Marlowe searches for the millionairess daughter.

FRIDAY 24TH

THE BOGIE MAN (£5)

The Bogie Man film (1992) and a discussion on the inspiration for this very Scottish Film Noir work with the co-writer of the original graphic novel, Alan Grant, and Andy Park, the producer of the BBC film starring Robbie Coltrane and Midge Ure. The streets of Glasgow are transformed into the dark criminal underworld of the USA by the slightly misplaced but fearless efforts of the hero. Signed copies of the graphic novel will be available.

WEDNESDAY 22ND

Margaret Thomson Davis

Marquee - 2pm (£3)

This popular Scottish writer has had many short stories and novels published, two of which have been adapted for the stage. All of her books have been on the Scottish bestseller lists and she is an entertaining and informative speaker.

Virginia Nicholson

Among the Bohemians

Marquee - 3.30pm (£3)

In her book Virginia Nicholson, the great-niece of Virginia Woolf, explores the life and works of the Bloomsbury Set including Dylan and Caitlin Thomas, Augustus John and her grandmother, Vanessa Bell.



The Book Town Festival Dinner with Guest Speaker Miles Hilton Barber

County Buildings - 8pm (£17.50)

This remarkable man, who has been blind for the past twenty-five years, has, in the last 4 years, set a number of world records, whilst undertaking extreme endurance events across the Sahara, Gobi and Qatar Deserts, Antarctica, and Siberia.

Miles' motivational presentations to large conferences, corporate management and staff from a wide variety of blue-chip companies and organisations are full of the rich, humorous life-lessons he has learnt, overcoming his blindness, epitomising his life-philosophy that; *"the only limits in your life are those you accept yourself"*. (This event is sponsored by Galloway Association of Glasgow)

THURSDAY 23RD

Basil Mahon

James Clerk Maxwell

The Man Who Changed Everything

Marquee - 2pm (£3)

James Clerk Maxwell (1831 - 1879) changed our perception of reality and laid the foundations for many of the scientific and technological advances of the twentieth century. He took the first colour photograph and introduced the system of thought experiments, later used by Einstein. Basil Mahon has been a lifelong admirer of Maxwell and his work and in the talk today he will share the inspirational nature of Maxwell's life and achievements with you.

Paul Henke - Silent Tears

Marquee - 4pm (£3)

Packed with excitement, *Silent Tears* is a masterpiece. A novel that vibrates with sheer narrative power and relentlessly builds the emotional pressure until it explodes in a firestorm of passion and high-octane adventure. A spellbinding epic.

Libby Purves

Acting Up
County Buildings
7pm (£8)

Radio 4 presenter, Libby Purves reads from her latest novel *"Acting Up"* which covers the Iraq war, changing social roles and the nature of prejudice, with her customary light and perceptive touch.

"She has a wonderful knack for making people feel good about themselves."

Humphrey Carpenter
Director, Cheltenham Festival of Literature



Annie Neligan - Sleeping Warrior: Women, Self Defence and Feminism

Reading Lasses - 8.30pm (£3)

The launch of the second book published by ReadingLasses Press. The author talks about her book, *Sleeping Warrior*, in which women tell their stories of how they discovered their own power, often against enormous odds. She looks through feminist eyes at how this sense of power has been stolen and at how together we can begin to create a world in which we can all flourish.

FRIDAY 24TH

READERS' DAY (£5)

Des Dillon and Ronald Frame

Tickets available to the public from 1st September

A Festival Readers' Day in response to popular demand following the very successful Spring event held here in Wigtown.

Morning - A Review and discussion with Des on *"Six Black Candles"*

County Buildings - 10.45am

Lunch break - 12noon until 2pm

Afternoon - A review and discussion with Ronald on *"The Lantern Bearers"*

County Buildings - 2pm to 3.15pm

(This event is in association with Dumfries and Galloway Libraries, Information and Archives and Dumfries and Galloway Arts Association)

Christian McEwen - Poetry Workshop

The Hut at ReadingLasses - 2pm (£5)

Join Christian for two hours of unique insight into the sources and inspiration behind some of today's best contemporary women's poetry.

The Annual McNeillie Lecture

County Buildings - 7.30pm (£8)

Our guest speaker (to be announced) will focus on the life and works of John McNeillie (John Niall) for this inaugural McNeillie Lecture.

For further details on this event please contact the Festival office on 01988 402036.

SATURDAY 25TH

David Nicol

The Fundamentals of New Caledonia

The Book Shop - 10.30am (£4)

David Nicol will be reading from and talking with Hamish McDonald about his latest book *"The Fundamentals of New Caledonia"*

Andrew McNeillie

My Childhood by John McNeillie

County Buildings - 11am (£5)

From the author of *The Wigtown Ploughman* and *A Galloway Childhood*, we are proud to host the launch of a previously unpublished manuscript of the late John McNeillie. His elder son, Andrew tells us what he found in Iain Niall's attic.

Owen Dudley Edwards

A History of Children's Literature

The School - 12.30pm (£5)

A welcome return to Wigtown for writer, critic and broadcaster Owen Dudley Edwards following his sell out performance at last year's Festival. Expect a highly entertaining and informative hour as the author of *Burke & Hare* turns his attention to the history of Children's Literature.

Ronald Frame

Time in Carnberg

The Bookshop - 12.30pm (£5)

Ronald Frame - Reviews and discusses *"Time in Carnberg"*.

"Glasgow ought to have Ronald Frame in its literary hall of fame, but critics can't pin the multi-award-winning author down."

Lesley McDowell Sunday Herald

Ken Wilkie - Van Gogh the Myth

and the Man

The School - 2.30pm (£5)

Ken Wilkie, a many-sided Scottish travel writer based in The Netherlands, tells how a journalistic assignment got out of hand and became *The Van Gogh File*, a journey of discovery where serious investigation into uncharted territory combines with the absurd. The talk will embrace a short excerpt and end with questions and answers. Ken Wilkie was named Journalist of the Year 2004 at the USA Travel Media Awards in London.

Sally Magnusson - Glorious Things

County Buildings 1pm (£8)

Sally Magnusson, well known newsreader, is also a regular presenter of *Songs of Praise* and will be talking about her latest book *"Glorious Things: My Hymns for Life"* as well as her family story *"Dreaming of Iceland: The Lure of a Family Legend"*



Booking Form

Booking in advance is strongly advised. Please fill in the forms overleaf and send to the festival office via our Freepost facility:

Wigtown Book Town
Company
FREEPOST NAT 5359,
Wigtown,
Newton Stewart,
DG8 9BR.

Please note - All events should last approximately one hour unless otherwise stated in the programme.

HOW TO BOOK THIS YEAR'S LITERARY FESTIVAL

• **BY POST:** Please complete this form, detach from the programme and send with payment and stamped s.a.e. to:

Wigtown Book Town Company

FREEPOST NAT5359

WIGTOWN, Newton Stewart

DG8 9BR

Payment can be:

- by cheque made payable to 'The Book Town Co'.
- by credit / debit card (Visa / Mastercard / Delta / Switch / Maestro)

valid from ____ / ____

expiry date ____/____

issue number (Switch/Maestro) _____

name on card

£1 handling charge per form will be made for credit/debit card sales

- BY PHONE / FAX

Tel: 01988 402036 (10am - 5pm, Mon - Fri)

Tel. 01988 402221 (10am - 5pm, Sat- Sun)

only) This service is available courtesy of Historic Newspapers.

Credit / debit card bookings only.

Please have your event titles and dates

ready before phoning.

Handling charges apply (as above)

- ONLINE BOOKING VIA OUR WEBSITE

24 hours per day, 7 days per week

www.wigtown-booktown.co.uk/festival

Handling charges apply (as above)

Conditions: The Book Town Company does not exchange or refund tickets. WBTC reserves the right to alter the programme or substitute writers without prior notice if circumstances dictate. If the ticketed event proceeds but not as advertised, WBTC will exchange your ticket(s) for another event of similar value but does not offer a refund. If an event is cancelled outright WBTC will offer a full refund.

Name :

Address :

Postcode :

Tel:

Email:

Tickets will be on sale from Monday 9th August

As a Friend or Benefactor you would be most welcome to join us for the Book Town Festival Dinner, at a specially reduced rate of just £14.00 (normal price £17.50).

- ☐ **Friends: £12 subscription**

- Advance mailing of the Festival programme; mailed 2 days prior to the official brochure launch.
- Priority booking for all events with special offers on some of them
- Regular E-newsletters (by post if you do not have an email address)
- Friends of the Book Town/Festival membership card
- Car Sticker/Book Marker
- Friends of the Book Town/Festival offers and competitions




- ☐ **Benefactors: £60 subscription**

- Benefactors become Friends for life and will receive a copy of the 5th Anniversary Book Town CD Rom

Tick one box and add your subscription to your total order.

Reading Groups : If you are a member of a reading group and would like to be kept informed of Book Town plans for developing links with reading groups please tick the box. ☐

Data Protection : We would like to keep you informed about Wigtown and its events, Wigtown Book Town Company will not pass on details to any other organisation. To receive information please tick the following boxes.

Festivals  Bookshops  Book Fairs 

Street Markets ☐ Community Events ☐

BOOKING FORM FOR TICKETS REQUIRED

Date	Time	Event	Qty	Price	Total Cost
Handling charge for card payments					£1.00
Friends subscription (£12) / Benefactor subscription (£60)					
Grand Total					£

Scottish Book Town Literary Festival Ticket Competition

For your chance to win two tickets for an event of your choice, please complete this questionnaire and return to: Wigtown Book Town Company, FREEPOST NAT 5359, WIGTOWN, Newton Stewart, DG8 9BR. Or you can enter via our online competition at www.wigtown-booktown.co.uk/competition

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

How did you find out about the Festival?

Sent a brochure ☐ Picked up a brochure ☐ Previous Visit ☐
 Previous Festival ☐ Recommended ☐ Feature/ article ☐
 From the Tourist Board ☐ Website ☐ Other.....

Have you visited Wigtown before? Yes ☐ No ☐

How many people are in your party?

Book Enthusiast ☐ or Browser ☐

Antiquarian ☐ Modern Firsts ☐ Out of Print ☐ Gen. Fiction ☐
 Sci-fi Fantasy ☐ Non Fiction ☐ History ☐ Biographies ☐
 Scottish ☐ Children's ☐ Other - please name

Have you ever attended any of the following Book Festivals?

Aberdeen ☐ Edinburgh ☐ Hay ☐ Bath ☐
 Dartington ☐ Keswick ☐ Cheltenham ☐

Which daily newspaper do you read?

Which weekend newspaper do you read?

From the following which age category do you fall into?

Under 18 ☐ 19-24 ☐ 25-34 ☐ 35-44 ☐ 45-54 ☐
 55-64 ☐ 65+ ☐

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 Community Events ☐

SATURDAY 25TH



Martin Bell Through Gates of Fire County Buildings 3pm (£8)

Martin Bell has been at the forefront of television news reporting for the last thirty years, followed by his election as an Independent MP. Martin talks about his latest book *Through Gates of Fire: A Journey into World Disorder*. (Sponsored by Allan and Sandra McDowall)

Carl McDougall - Writing Scotland County Buildings - 5pm (£5)

Carl MacDougall is a novelist and short story writer, as well as writing extensively for radio, television and theatre. *Writing Scotland*, a new eight-part series produced for the BBC by Hopscotch Films, examines Scotland's distinctive writing tradition and its influence in defining Scotland as a nation. Writer and presenter Carl McDougall will be joined by Hopscotch producer John Archer in a lively and illuminating discussion on this landmark series and the forthcoming book of the same name.



Monty and Sarah Don County Buildings - 7pm (£8)

Monty Don is a leading gardening writer and presenter of BBC Gardeners' World, but in the 1980's he and his wife, Sarah were plunged into crisis when a business venture failed. *The Jewel Garden* describes the garden they created and the optimism which changed their lives.

Rudsambee Company of Singers Swallow Theatre - 7.30pm (£6)

Rudsambee sings songs from around the world – Africa to Iceland – as well as original settings of Scots and Irish Poetry. Come and listen to songs from all corners of the world – from 14th century *Celtic plainchant* to *Armenian pui-t-a-beul* to a *Breton drinking song* – to lift the soul, to move the feet and to raise a glass!

The Luath/Book Town Hoolie Distillery - 9pm to 12pm (£10 with supper)

Encapsulating the very spirit of Scotland, this will be a whirligig of poetry and prose – a true ceilidh in the traditional sense of the word to stimulate the mind and animate the body. Come join us for a great Saturday night!

SUNDAY 26TH

Jack Hunter

The Galloway Writings of Gavin Maxwell

10.30 am (£12, including light lunch)

To mark the 90th anniversary of Gavin Maxwell's birth, the renowned historian and critic reads excerpts from *The House of Elrig* in the atmospheric setting of Monreith House – the Maxwell family seat. (Please allow 15 minutes travel from Wigtown).

Jim Crumley - Nature in Focus The Visitor Room - County Buildings 10.30am (£4)

Jim Crumley is a nature writer with almost 20 books to his name, mostly on the landscape and wildlife of Scotland. His book *Something Out There* is an account of his quest to rediscover something of the ancient bond between man and nature.



SUNDAY 26TH (continued)**Breakfast with Martin Bell****The Bistro, County Buildings****10.30am (£7.50)**

A chance to talk more informally with the renowned journalist, writer and former MP.

Bernard MacLavery**The Anatomy School****Bladnoch Distillery - 11am (£6)**

An early opportunity to meet the author and broadcaster as he discusses his latest work *"The Anatomy School"*. Bernard's previous work *"Grace Notes"* won the Saltire Scottish Book of the Year in 1997 and was shortlisted for the Booker Prize the same year.

David Ross - Wallace and the Wars of Independence**County Buildings - 12.30pm (£5)**

David Ross is passionate about Scotland, its landscapes, traditions and history. He is also passionate about the struggles of William Wallace during the Wars of Independence and this will form the basis of his talk.

Liz Niven with John Archer of Hopscotch Films to discuss "Poets on a Plane"**Bladnoch Distillery - 1pm (£4)**

A documentary made for STV as part of the *'This Scotland'* series about local poet Liz Niven's work as poet in residence at Inverness Airport: Liz Niven will be introducing the screening and talking about her work with John Archer.

Bernard MacLavery**Bye Child****Distillery - 2.30pm (£8)**

"Bye-Child" was recently nominated for a BAFTA short film award. Bernard will talk about the making of his film after which the film will be shown.

**Trevor Royle - Civil War****County Buildings - 2.30pm (£5)**

Leading journalist and literary commentator, Trevor Royle is also one of the country's finest military historians. His latest book *"Civil War: The Wars of the Three Kingdoms 1638-1660"* places the English Civil War in a wider British Context.

David Stevenson**The Hunt for Rob Roy****County Buildings - 4.30pm (£5)**

David will talk about his experiences while writing his book *"The Hunt for Rob Roy: the Man and the Myths"*. This book explodes some of the popular myths, revealing a darker side to Scotland's Robin Hood.

Linda Cracknell**Life Drawing****Bladnoch Distillery - 4.30pm (£4)**

This collection of short stories takes its title from Linda Cracknell's first short story, written in 1998, which won the Macallan/Scotland on Sunday award. The stories here begin with experiences of childhood and take the reader on a journey leading, inevitably, to old age.

Rab Wilson - The Festival in Verse from the Festival Bard**County Buildings - 7pm (£5)**

Rab Wilson is an old friend of the Book Town and ideally suited to the role of Festival Bard. Rab has been researching the town for several months now gathering notes on its rich past – historical and humorous, factual and anecdotal – and he will blend this along with his own very personal review of this year's Festival highlights.

(This event sponsored by Gaelforce)

The Gaelforce Poetry Tent

For the first time, the Wigtown Annual Literary festival presents a two-day celebration of poetry, with poets from Dumfries and Galloway sharing space with poets from elsewhere in Scotland and further afield. An eclectic mix of readings, discussions and desert island poems. Buy a ticket for one event or one of our special offer Poetry Event day tickets.

**SATURDAY 25TH****The Poetry of Hugh MacDiarmid****11am**

John Manson and Alan Riach, co-editors of Hugh MacDiarmid's recently-discovered poems, read from MacDiarmid's poetry and discuss his work.

Crichton Writers and Dumfries**Writers Workshop 12.30pm**

Members of two of the region's Writers Groups launch their new joint anthology *Double Vision*.

Hugh McMillan and Des Dillon**2pm**

Popular Scottish writer Des Dillon and acclaimed Dumfries-based poet Hugh MacMillan, read their poems and share their own particular visions.

John Manson and Rab Wilson**3.30pm**

Poems in Scots and English from two of Dumfries and Galloway's finest poets.

Desert Castaway Poems 1 5pm

Which poems would you take on a Desert Island? Come and hear the choice of Vicki Feaver, Hugh McMillan and Tony Curtis

Tony Curtis and Alan Riach 6.30pm

Poetry from two distinct voices: Dublin-born Tony Curtis, author of five collections of poetry, and Alan Riach, Professor of Scottish Literature at the University of Glasgow and accomplished poet in his own right.

Poetry Doubles 8pm

Vicki Feaver with local poet Rosemary Baker. This special series of readings moves into the Wigtown festival. Throughout Dumfries and Galloway in August and September, major poets share a stage with up and coming poets from Dumfries and Galloway. For further details contact Andrew Forster at Andrew@dgaa.net

Each event £4 -
All day ticket available at £16

SUNDAY 26TH**Scots in the Twenty First Century****Liz Niven, Rab Wilson and WN****Herbert 11am**

Three poets talk about their use of Scots and read from their work. Chaired by the Robert Burns Writing Fellow Hamish Macdonald.

The Shameless Heaneys 12.30pm

Five poets from North East England join forces to read their own poetry. They could be the next big thing!

Castaway Poems 2 2pm

The dilemma continues. Personal choices from Brian Johnstone, WN Herbert and Linda France.

Brian Johnstone and Andrew Forster**4pm**

The Chair of Stanza and DGAA's Literature Development Officer, both acclaimed poets in their own right, spotlight their own work.

Linda France and WN Herbert**5.30pm**

Two of Britain's foremost poets read from and discuss their work.

Each event £4 - All day ticket available at £12

(This programme sponsored by Gaelforce)



Kidzfest

4 Performances Marquee
Each event £2.00 - Day ticket £6.00
(Ages are a rough guide only)

MID GALLOWAY
AREA COMMITTEE

Scottish
Arts Council
LOTTERY FUNDED

SATURDAY 18TH

Franzeska Ewart

10.30am (£2.00)

Franzeska will be talking about the characters in her books and how she gets ideas for them. But you won't just be sitting and listening – you've got to take part as well!
(All ages)

Alan Temperley

12noon (£2.00)

Alan will be reading from his recent books, including *"The Simple Giant"* and telling you how he came to write it and answering any questions you would like to ask him.
(Ages 9+)

Mark Halliday

2.00pm (£2.00)

Mark writes poetry for children and adults. Mark will be reading and talking about his collection of children's poems *Teacher on a Horse*.
(All Ages)

Jonny Boatfield

3.30pm (£2.00)

Jonny talks about the imagining and making of *The Twilight Book* and asks you to help him write and illustrate a new story. At the end you will get your own Artist's Licence.



SUNDAY 19TH

Mairi Hedderwick and Holly Surplice

11.00am (£2.00)

Following on from their successful partnership at the Festival in 2003, Mairi and Holly join forces again to bring you stories and illustrations
(Ages 7 and Under)

Julia Donaldson

12.30pm (£2.00)

Julia and her husband, Malcolm, will be launching Julia's latest book *"The Gruffalo's Child"* and also performing stories and songs from other books including *"Sharing a Shell"*, *"Wriggle and Roar"* and *"The Giant and the Joneses"*
(All Ages)

Anne Butler (Molly Muddle)

2.30pm (£2.00)

Join in the fun with Molly Muddle as she goes on a fantastic journey around *Our Wonderful World* and shares some stories about her friends.
(Ages 7 and under)

Cathy Cassidy

4.00pm (£2.00)

Cathy lives in New Galloway and her first novel *"Dizzy"* has just been published. Dizzy is a 12 year old girl with a hippy mum and the story takes us through her experiences and emotions as she grows up.
(Ages 9+)



Primary Outreach Programme

Building on our outreach programme of the last few years we have brought in some of the country's and our region's top children's authors to complement the weekend programme of events and performances. The outreach programme which includes twelve of the local primary schools makes sure that as many of our local children get to experience first hand the joy of books and intimate contact with the writers... this experience can and does often lead to a lifetime love of literature.

The following writers are supporting this years outreach programme;

Monday; Matthew Fitt, Mairi Hedderwick, Franzeska Ewart
Tuesday; Andrew Wolffe, Alan Temperley

Youth Festival

Liz Niven is the Cultural Co-ordinator for Creative Writing in Dumfries & Galloway schools. A widely published poet and specialist in Scots language, her recent commission with Inverness Airport is the subject of a TV documentary ' '. Liz has compiled a week of workshops and readings for the Douglas Ewart High School to link with Wigtown Book Town's Literary Festival. Throughout the week of the Festival, an exciting programme of writers will visit the school, give readings, conduct writing workshops and assist in the compilation of a magazine of the pupils' work.

The following writers are supporting this years programme;

Des Dillon
Janet Paisley
Cathy Cassidy
Catherine Czerkawska
Hamish MacDonald
Christine De Luca
Paul Henke



VISITING THE FESTIVAL

Tourist Information and Accommodation

Newton Stewart Tourist Board Office
Dashwood Square, Newton Stewart DG8 6EQ
Tel: 01671 402431

Book Town web site for local accommodation:
www.wigtown-booktown.co.uk

Festival parking

Additional parking provision is provided during the festival for able and less able drivers as shown on the map opposite

Food and Drink

The Festival Bistro will be located in the County Buildings on the first floor which is equipped with lift access.

We can also offer a range of good quality eating facilities in and around Wigtown to meet most tastes – all open during the festival period (booking ahead of arrival is always worthwhile to avoid disappointment)

Details as follows; all 01988 numbers

The Bayview Bistro - 402391
Glaisnock - 402249
The Galloway Inn - 402431
The Florentine Cafe - 402368
Cafe Rendezvous - 402074
Grapes Inn - 403207
ReadingLasses - 403266
Wigtown Ploughman - 403236
The Bladnoch Inn - 402200
Fordbank Country House Hotel - 402346

WIGTOWN TOWN MAP

Book Shop

Restaurant

i

Info

P

Disabled Parking

P

Festival Parking

T

Toilet

1

Festival Marquee

VENUE

2

County Building

VENUE/TICKETS

3

3

ReadingLasses

VENUE

4

The Book Shop

VENUE

5

Wigtown Primary

VENUE

6

Web Books

VENUE

7

Bladnoch Distillery

VENUE

8

The Bayview Bistro

9

The Book Vaults

10

Old Bank Bookshop

11

Glaisnock Restaurant

12

Galloway Inn

13

Byre Books

14

451f

15

Wigtown Ploughman

16

Florentine Café

17

Café Rendezvous

18

Grapes Inn

19

Book Corner

20

Menavaur Books

21

Cauldron

22

The Bookend Studio

23

Box of Frogs

24

Artyfacts

25

Bits of Wood

26

M.E. McCarty

27

Historic Newspapers

28

The Music Shop

29

Aa 1 Books

30

Ming Books

31

Transformer

32

Bladnoch Inn

33

Fordbank Hotel

34

The Book Warehouse

35

Festival Book Shop

Whilst at the festival...

Mairi Hedderwick

Launch of the Reader's Passport School - 2.00 pm

Launch of the Wigtown Passport
Popular children's author Mairi Hedderwick launches a new reading incentive scheme designed to run all the way through the primary years.

Devised by the Library service, Wigtown Primary School, Wigtown Book Town Company, and Dumfries and Galloway Arts Association, the Passport scheme encourages children to engage with books, with the Book Town, and with the wider literary world, with the support of Dumfries and Galloway Council and the Galloway Gazette

Exhibitions

Putting Women in the Picture

An Exhibition of *Machars Women's Stories and Memories* told in text, images & audio. The exhibition will be located in the County Buildings for the duration of the Festival 17th through to the 26th September. (Free)

Bladnoch Distillery and Visitor Centre

Scotland's southernmost distillery will be open over the period of the Festival hosting some of our key events and providing tours of this small privately owned producer of one of Scotland's finest single malts.

Bladnoch...

Is also the sister village to Wigtown and plays host to three of our book shops. It also has its own public house and several accommodation providers and is well worth a visit in its own right while you are in Wigtown for this year's Literary Festival.

If you are intending to stay for several days or more then there is so much more to enjoy in Wigtown and the surrounding Machars including.

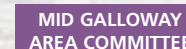
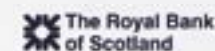
- 19 book shops, half a million books, to browse through at your leisure.
- Off Road Driving.
- Our local Butterfly Farm.
- The Local Nature Reserve (largest in the UK) and the Camera/Visitor Room in the County Buildings where you can get really close to the Machars wildlife.
- If you enjoy outdoor pursuits we have excellent cycling routes, canoeing, golf and or you can participate in an extensive range of Field Sports
- Wigtown is only several miles from Whithorn the nation's oldest town and cradle of Christianity in Scotland which is complemented by a range of unique historic sites, walks and tours.
- The Animal World and Museum
- Several excellent Country Gardens

Leaflets and further information on any of the activities noted above can be obtained from the Book Town Office 01988 402036 or Machars Information Centre 01988 402633



Sponsors

We are pleased to acknowledge support from the following:



Allan McDowall - Electrical Engineers



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Acknowledgements

A very special thanks to Sir Michael Maxwell (Bart) for his generosity in providing the Festival with the use of the magnificent Monreith House as both venue and accommodation for some of our visiting writers.

The Festival Planning Group would like to take this opportunity to thank all our Sponsors and Publishers for their valuable assistance and advice - without your input the Festival would not have been possible.

Wigtown Book Town Office, County Buildings, Wigtown DG8 9JH

Tel: 01988 402036 Fax: 01988 402506

www.wigtown-booktown.co.uk/festival

Our book shops are open between 9/10am and 6pm during the Festival
so take the time to call in ... you will be made most welcome.



WIGTOWN BOOK SHOPS

451f

29 South Main Street

Tel: 01988 402515

Aa1 Books

Unit 3, Duncan Park

Tel: 01988 402653

Artyfacts

14 North Main Street

Tel: 01988 404020

Bits of Wood

12 North Main Street

Tel: 01988 403231

Book Vaults

19 Bank Street

Tel: 01988 402025

Byre Books

24 South Main Street

Tel: 0845 458 3813

Cauldron

3 High Street

Tel: 01988 402417

M E McCarty

13 North Main Street

Tel: 01988 402062

Menavaur Books

11 High Street

Tel: 01988 840665

Ming Books

Beechwood, Acre Place

Tel: 01988 402653

Old Bank Bookshop

7 South Main Street

ReadingLasses Bookshop Café

17 South Main St

Tel: 01988 403266

The Book Corner & Langford Press

2 High Street

Tel: 01988 402010

The Bookend Studio

23 North Main Street

Tel: 01988 402403

The Bookshop

17 North Main Street

Tel: 01988 402499

The Book Warehouse

Unit 10, Bladnoch Bridge Estate,

DG8 9AB

Tel: 01988 402005

The Box of Frogs Children's Bookshop

18 North Main Street

Tel: 01988 402255

The Music Shop

6 Bank Street

Tel: 01988 403208

Transformer

26 Main Street, Bladnoch

Tel: 01988 403455

Web Books

Riverside House, Bladnoch

Tel: 01988 402190