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# The Scottish Book Town Festival

28 Sept - 7 Oct 2007

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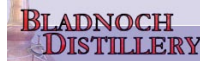
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## THE FESTIVAL IS FUNDED BY



# Welcome

Wigtown is a historic market town on the Galloway coast that is home to 900 people, a malt whisky distillery and over a quarter of a million books. Each year our autumn book festival provides ten days of readings, performances, exhibitions and debates, prompting a mass migration of bibliophiles to this pastoral corner of Scotland.

This year the festival celebrates peace in Northern Ireland with First Minister, Rev Ian Paisley, giving the opening address, and a good number of Irish and Northern Irish writers in the programme. We look forward to welcoming a new audience from Belfast and the surrounding area and would like to thank Stena Line, our new principal sponsor, for allowing the practicalities of cross-channel links to be undertaken in great luxury.

Amidst a growing number of book festivals, Wigtown continues to set itself apart from the crowd. We are, and always will be, Scotland's National Book Town, with its unique concentration of bookshops, but we are not content to rest on our laurels. This year we introduce a new theme, "On the Edge", which will run through this and future festivals.

On the Edge events will reflect Wigtown's geographical situation on the edge of the mainland, and will include talks on islands, coastlines, peripheral and remote places. Thus, you can hear Brian Keenan on Alaska, Lesley Riddoch on the Outer Hebrides, or Robert Twigger recounting his quest to discover one of Egypt's lost oases.

On the Edge events will also reflect situations where individuals go against the flow of mainstream culture. Thus, we celebrate Samye Ling Tibetan Centre's 40th Anniversary, hear Teresa Pascual launch a Catalan poetry anthology and learn about the wild boys of 20th-century Scottish art, Robert McBride and Robert Colquhoun.

As always, I would like to thank our increasing number of sponsors for their generosity, our growing band of helpers for their support, and our dedicated team of organisers for their hard work. Finally, I would like to thank the people of Wigtown for being such gracious hosts to festival visitors and for helping us try to fulfil their town motto "Let Wigtown Flourish."

We look forward to seeing you at the festival.

Michael McCreath  
Festival Director



## ON SITE EXTRAS

**On Main Street, by the County Buildings, you will find a number of entertaining and refreshing diversions:**

### The Book Doctor

Saturdays 11am-4pm

Want advice on what to read next? Need someone to give your writing an honest evaluation? Whether you're eight or eighty, drop in to the Book Doctor's Surgery Bus. Consultations last ten minutes. First come first served.

### Silent Movie Bus

Weekends. Times as advertised

This gem of a 1920s mobile cinema will show a steady stream of silent movies. Buster Keaton and Harold Lloyd perform their death-defying stunts, while the children of Auchencairn present their own version of Burns' classic, Tam O' Shanter.

### Street Plays

Weekends 1pm and 4pm

The Whithorn Events Group perform *The Play of St Ninian*, written by Brian Hayward in the style of the traditional Scottish folk play. Violence, death and resurrection occur in just 15 minutes.

### The Carbon Footprint Testing Van

At a time when we are all being urged to downsize our carbon footprints, have you ever wondered what size your own footprint actually is? Come to the Testing Van by the County Buildings and discover whether your lifestyle is environmentally sustainable or not.

### The Bicycle-Powered Juicer

No fossil fuels or National Grid – just a few minutes in the saddle and hey presto! Come and enjoy a deliciously refreshing drink, specially prepared by pedal power.

## FRIDAY 28 SEPTEMBER

### Ian McHarg and Willie Drennan

#### Galloway Irish meets Ulster Scots

Stena HSS Ferry 12.30pm

The comic poems of Wigtownshire's Ian McHarg are matched with the songs of Antrim's Willie Drennan in this light-hearted celebration of Galloway Irish and Ulster-Scots. The event takes place on the Stena HSS fast ferry between Belfast and Stranraer, the perfect location to reunite these estranged linguistic cousins.

### Friends' Drinks Party

Festival Marquee 6pm

Wigtown Festival Company invites its Sponsors, Benefactors and Friends to the 2007 Festival Launch Party. If you would like to become a supporter of the festival, by making a simple charitable donation, please contact the box office on 01988 403222 before purchasing Festival tickets.

### Fiona Castle

#### Matters of Death and Life

Festival Marquee  
7pm (£5)

After the death of her husband, the television presenter and musician, Roy, Fiona Castle was forced to reassess how she lived. She talks of her husband's legacy and offers some lessons in how to lead a satisfyingly simple existence.



### Tess Gallagher & Josie Gray

#### Barnacle Soup

County Buildings 7pm (£5)

The acclaimed poet and essayist Tess Gallagher was first encouraged to write short stories by her late husband, Raymond Carver. In *Barnacle Soup*,

she records the artist Josie Gray's remarkable oral tales from Ireland's west coast, which conjure a cast of rural characters as they laugh, drink, court and plot. *Sponsored by Galloway Smokehouse*

### Last Word Productions

#### Every Day Decisions

Swallow Theatre 7.30pm (£8)

Musical theatre group Last Word return to the Festival with their new revue, inviting us to explore the choices we make each day. Such seemingly insignificant decisions can have life-changing results.

### Rev Ian Paisley

#### Opening Address

Festival Marquee

8.30pm (£10)

Northern Ireland's First Minister gives the opening address of the festival, leading our line-up of Irish and Northern Irish speakers. In this address, Dr Paisley reveals his connection with Wigtown and describes how events over 300 years ago in Wigtown Bay have influenced his life.



## SATURDAY 29 SEPTEMBER

### Robert Crawford

#### Scotland's Books: The Penguin History of Scottish Literature

Festival Marquee 10.30am (£5)

From *Treasure Island* to *Trainspotting*, Scotland's literature has had a disproportionately large effect on the rest of the world. In *Scotland's Books*, Robert Crawford – acclaimed poet and Professor of Modern Scottish Literature at the University of St Andrews – presents 15 centuries of the nation's literary history in a single volume for the first time. A must for anyone who cares about Scottish writing.

## Ian Gardiner

### The Oman War

County Buildings 10.30am (£5)

While America fought in Vietnam, a struggle of far greater strategic significance was taking place against armed insurgents in the Middle East: upon it depended the security of oil supplies to the West. Historian Ian Gardiner tells the forgotten story of the Darfur War, finding in it remarkable parallels with Iraq and Afghanistan.

## Andrew Forster &

### Gerry Stewart

### Flambard Press Poetry Launch

The Old Bank Bookshop  
10.30am (£5)

Andrew Forster's first full-length collection of poems, *Fear of Thunder*, considers the forces that make us all who we are. 'A notable newcomer' (The Scotsman). Gerry Stewart's *Post-Holiday Blues* is a traveller's notebook, capturing locations and experiences while questioning the right to participate in other cultures.

## Allan Massie

### The Magnusson Memorial Lecture

Festival Marquee 12 noon (£8)

Magnus Magnusson was a regular visitor to Wigtown Book Festival. He loved it and described it warmly - "What a wonderful place! My favourite book festival." His last delightful performance at the 2006 Festival was only a few weeks before he died, and it was decided to initiate an annual lecture in his name to celebrate his connection with Wigtown.

Magnus had a gift and a passion for language, so it is appropriate that the topic of the inaugural lecture, given by author Allan Massie, will be "our changing language". Introduced by **Sally Magnusson**.

## The Wigtown Poetry Competition

### Competition Launch with Robert Crawford

County Buildings 12 noon  
(Free but ticketed)

Dumfries & Galloway Arts Association invite you to join them for a glass of wine to launch Scotland's largest poetry competition. This year's judge, Robert Crawford, will read from his work and describe what he looks for in a great poem – essential advice if you want to be a serious contender!

## Malcolm MacGregor

### A Hebridean Landscape

The Old Bank Bookshop  
12 noon (£5)

The celebrated photographer, who specialises in capturing the dramatic landscapes of remote areas such as Oman and Alaska, takes his audience on a stunning visual tour of the Western Isles of Scotland.

## Alasdair Gray

### Old Men in Love

### Festival Marquee

1.30pm (£8)

Widely regarded as Scotland's greatest living novelist, the author of *Lanark* discusses his work and reads from his eagerly anticipated new novel. Like *The Arabian Nights*, *Old Men in Love* is about a storyteller whose stories contain other stories: Renaissance Florence and Victorian Somerset mingle with Britain under the New Labour Party, viewed from Glasgow's West End. *Sponsored by Montpellier Professional Services*



## Malachi O'Doherty & Glen Patterson

### Getting Over the Troubles County Buildings 1.30pm (£5)

Journalist Malachi O'Doherty, from Catholic West Belfast, has been an outspoken critic of the IRA. Novelist Glen Patterson from Shankill became a self-named "Lapsed Protestant." They talk to BBC Scotland's Lesley Riddoch about growing up on opposing sides of Belfast's sectarian divide and consider Northern Ireland's attempts to heal the wounds of the past. *Sponsored by Bladnoch Distillery*

## Marij van Helmond Co-operation and the Co-op Store in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland

### The Old Bank Bookshop 1.30pm (Free, but ticketed)

The social historian explores how the co-operative model flourished in Scotland's wilder places and asks what lessons it has for rural communities today.

## A C Grayling The Struggle for Liberty

### Festival Marquee 3pm (£8)

The writer and philosopher talks about his timely new book, *Towards the Light*, which discusses the struggles endured and sacrifices made to create what we now call "western democracy". *Sponsored by The Festival Book Shop*



## Lesley Riddoch The Outer Hebrides

### County Buildings 3pm (£5)

Funny, frank and fearless as ever, the broadcaster discusses her bicycle journey through the Western Isles, which hold up an alternative way of life to the worldly, debt-ridden Scottish mainland. Is small about to become beautiful

again, or are Hebrideans hiding from the size and speed of mainstream life? *Sponsored by Galloway and Ayrshire Properties*

## Rodge Glass and Glen Patterson

### Fireworks Party The Old Bank Bookshop 3pm (£5)

Two great novelists – from Scotland and Northern Ireland respectively. Glass's captivating *No Fireworks* recounts eight extraordinary days in the life of an ordinary man who can no longer put off answering life's big questions. Set in Hiroshima, where frantic consumerism exists alongside the atom bomb's enduring shadow, Patterson's *The Third Party* is an explosive collision of East and West.

## John Walsh Sunday at the Cross Bones County Buildings 4.30pm (£5)

In 1932 Harold Davidson, rector of the Norfolk village of Stiffkey, became the most famous clergyman in Britain, after his attempts to "save" young women saw him tried for immorality. John Walsh – *Independent* columnist and team captain on BBC Radio 4's literary quiz *The Write Stuff* – explains the true story behind his irreverently brilliant novel, which recreates the life of one of the media's first anti-heroes. *Sponsored by Kirroughtree House Hotel*

## Roger Bristow & Davy Brown The Last Bohemians

### The Bookshop 4.30pm (£5)

Ayrshire-born painters Robert McBride & Robert Colquhoun met at Glasgow School of Art and became life-long companions. Their biographer, Roger Bristow, talks to artist Davy Brown about the lives and works of the two wild men of 20th century Scottish art, with an exhibition of their original paintings.

## Sally Magnusson

### Eric Liddell – “The Flying Scotsman”

**Festival Marquee 4.30pm (£8)**

In this new edition of her bestseller, brought out to coincide with the build-up to the Beijing Olympics, the broadcaster tells the amazing story of the Chariots of Fire gold medal-winning athlete who spent the second half of his life as a missionary in China. Liddell is a terrific example of a man going against the flow of 1920's mainstream celebrity culture. *Sponsored by Bladnoch Distillery.*

## Neal Ascherson

### The Black Sea County Buildings

**6pm (£5)**

Lying across a geographical and cultural fault line, *the Black Sea* has been the theatre of history and legend from Jason and the Argonauts to the fall of Communism. One of the pre-eminent experts in Eastern European affairs, Ascherson reveals why this little-known expanse of water continues to shape our world. *Sponsored by Waterstone's*



## The National Theatre of Scotland

### Molly Sweeney

**Bladnoch Distillery 7.30pm  
(£8/£5)**

Blind and happy for 40 years, Molly Sweeney's sight is restored with unforeseen consequences. Written by Ireland's pre-eminent living playwright, Brian Friel, this intimate three-hander is based on a true-life case study by Dr Oliver Sacks. Cast includes Michael Glenn Murphy and Cara Kelly (Best Female Performance, Critics Awards for Theatre in Scotland). *(A DGAA promotion)*

## A Good Read

**County Buildings 8pm (£5)**

Some of the day's speakers choose their favourite books of all time in this

informal discussion. Expect works of great hilarity, desperate sadness and anything in between. Chaired by *Scotland on Sunday* Literary Editor, Stuart Kelly.

## SUNDAY 30 SEPTEMBER

## Dorothy King

### The Elgin Marbles

**Festival Marquee 10.30am (£5)**

The glamorous archaeologist once dubbed “a female Indiana Jones” gives an illustrated account of the history of the Parthenon Marbles and the controversy that has surrounded them ever since Lord Elgin brought them from the Acropolis to Britain. She discusses the current debate over their rightful resting place with Lord Elgin's son, Adam Bruce. *Sponsored by 3B Construction*

## Michael Faulkner

### The Blue Cabin

**County Buildings 10.30am (£5)**

After his business went bust, Michael Faulkner left Scotland to live on an uninhabited island in a Northern Irish loch. It was the same haven to which his father, the last Prime Minister of Northern Ireland, retreated in the worst years of the Troubles. In this bittersweet memoir, life in paradise goes hand in hand with hilarious domestic disasters.

## Jeremy Bowen

### War Stories

**Festival Marquee  
12 noon (£8)**

The BBC's Middle East Editor describes his career as a war reporter from some of the world's most dangerous conflict zones. From El Salvador to Afghanistan, Bowen discusses how war journalism has evolved over recent years and brings up-to-date dispatches from Israel, Lebanon and the Palestinian Territories. *Sponsored by Kirroughtree House Hotel*





## The McNeillie Lecture

### John Pick on The Legacy of Neil Gunn

**County Buildings 12 noon (£5)**  
Born the son of a fisherman in Caithness in 1891, Neil Gunn is perhaps Scotland's greatest exponent of rural writing, a brilliantly sharp-eyed observer of the Highlands undergoing change. His friend and biographer explains why the author of *The Silver Darlings* deserves his place in the pantheon of Scottish writers, focussing on Gunn's sense of place.

## Tom Lappin and Peter Dorward

### Two Ravens Press

**The Old Bank Bookshop  
12 noon (£5)**

Two writers from Scotland's exciting new publishing company, Two Ravens Press. Journalist Tom Lappin (Parties) and Edinburgh GP Peter Dorward (Nightingale) read from their books and talk about how to get into print for the first time.

## Louis de Bernières & Ilone Antonius Jones

**Poems and Songs**  
**Festival Marquee  
1.30pm (£8)**

The author of *Captain Corelli's Mandolin* and *Birds Without Wings* reads some of his favourite poetry, accompanied by classical and traditional music from the multi-talented Ilone Antonius-Jones. With their moving repertoire and joyful stage presence this entertaining event will stay with you long after the curtain falls. *Sponsored by Kirroughtree House Hotel*



## Jack Hunter

### "As Ithers See Us"

**County Buildings 1.30pm (£5)**  
Galloway has been used as a setting for novels by a great number of well-known writers, including Arthur Conan Doyle, Eric Linklater and Ian Rankin. Their

portrayal of the area and its inhabitants is remarkably similar, but strikingly unflattering. The literary historian and critic discusses why.

## Charlotte Higgins

### Latin Love Lessons

**The Old Bank Bookshop  
1.30pm (£5)**

They built the greatest empire the world has known, but how did the Romans behave in more intimate moments? Using the Latin poets as her guide, the *Guardian* newspaper's arts correspondent, Charlotte Higgins, peeks behind the bedroom doors of ancient Rome to find what advice the classics offers the modern lover. Moving, erotic and funny, it may change your view of Roman civilisation forever.

## Rinchen Khandro

### Samye Ling Tibetan Buddhist Centre

**Festival Marquee 3pm (£5)**  
Established in 1967, Samye Ling was the first Tibetan Buddhist Centre in the Western world. To celebrate its 40th Anniversary, we hear the full story of its founding Lamas' harrowing escape from Tibet, their journey from Indian refugee camps to Britain, and the building of their monastery in the gentle, rolling landscape of Dumfriesshire.

## Hugo Rifkind

### Overexposure

**County Buildings 3pm (£5)**  
Macaulay Lewis is a showbusiness reporter on a London newspaper, tormented by the fact he's not as famous as the people he writes about: so what better way to grab the headlines than to catch a celebrity cat-burglar? In his wickedly funny first novel, Rifkind uses his inside knowledge of being *The Times* newspaper's diarist, to satirise both Fleet St and celebrity culture. Find out what really happens behind the headlines.



## Crichton Writers

### “Windfall” Anthology Launch

The Old Bank Bookshop 3pm

(Free, but ticketed)

The Crichton Writers’ fourth illustrated anthology draws inspiration from a wide variety of gardens. Subjects range from the synthesis of nature and design at Cowhill to the contemporary challenge of Portrack; the near wilderness of Polmaddy settlement, to the domestic delights of the writers’ own gardens.

## Conrad Williams and Christina Lawrie

### The Concert Pianist

The Swallow Theatre 3pm (£8)

The author reads extracts from his novel, *The Concert Pianist*, accompanied by the piano music of Brahms, Chopin and Rachmaninov, performed by Christina Lawrie.

## Film

### Black Narcissus (1947)

Bladnoch Distillery 8pm (£5)

Deborah Kerr leads a group of nuns who travel to a remote location in the Himalayas to set up a school and hospital and ‘tame’ the wild local people and environment, by conversion and gardening, only to find themselves increasingly distracted by the sensuality of their surroundings. A special screening to mark the centenary of the birth of Rumer Godden, upon whose novel the film is based. Introduced by Rumer Godden’s daughter, **Jane Murray Flutter**.



Courtesy of Bridgeman Art Library

## Wigtown Festival Company and Scottish Opera

### The Real Bride of Lammermoor

Baldoon Castle, Bladnoch 5pm (£10)

On 30 September 1669, Janet Dalrymple, one of Wigtownshire’s most eligible daughters, was laid to rest. In love with the penniless Archibald Rutherford, she had been forced to marry David Dunbar, heir to Baldoon. Shortly after their wedding, the couple retired to the bridal chamber of Baldoon castle where, in a horrific incident, the bridegroom was stabbed and Janet was left insane. The story was taken by Sir Walter Scott and relocated in the Borders. Wigtown Festival Company brings you the real story behind Scott’s novel, punctuated by some of the most memorable arias from Donizetti’s *Lucia Di Lammermoor*, performed by artists from Scottish Opera.

Narrators: **Andy Cassell** and **Peter Aitchison**

Soprano: **Christina Dunwoodie**

Tenor: **Colin Judson**

Pianist: **James Grossmith**.

Narrative: Rosemary Bythell

With special thanks to Andrew Sproat of Baldoon. *Note: this will be an outdoor performance, so think Glyndebourne. Feel free to bring a travelling rug, picnic and hot water bottle! Wet weather venue: Bladnoch Distillery.*

**MONDAY 1 OCTOBER****Barbara and  
Richard Mearns**  
**County Buildings**  
**11am (£5)**

John Kirk Townsend: Collector of *Audubon's Western Birds and Mammals* is the latest work by local authors Barbara and Richard Mearns (best known for *Biographies for Birdwatchers* and *The Bird Collectors*). In this illustrated talk, they follow Townsend's 1834 journey across the Rocky Mountains to the Pacific, from which he provided the legendary artist John James Audubon with new species.

**The National Trust for  
Scotland**  
**The History of Threave Garden**  
**County Buildings 1.30pm (£5)**

Trevor Jones, property manager for Threave, recounts the history of one of Galloway's most popular gardens. Created by the National Trust, Threave plays an important role as a teaching garden, whose students are involved in its design and maintenance.

**R F Foster**  
**Luck and the Irish**  
**County Buildings 3pm (£5)**

Few countries have transformed themselves as quickly as Ireland since 1970. Roy Foster, Carroll Professor of Irish History at Oxford University, offers an acute, witty and often controversial account of the changes. He casts his eye over North-South relationships, political scandals, sexual mores and the emergence of such emblematic figures as Bob Geldof, Charles Haughey and Mary Robinson.

**Mark Cocker**  
**Crow Country**  
**County Buildings 4.30pm (£5)**

Through the universally acclaimed *Birds Britannica*, Mark Cocker has established

himself as one of the foremost writers on nature and wilderness. *Crow Country* is an informative and poetic book in which he journeys around the country searching for ancient rookeries and their inhabitants, including one just a stone's throw from Wigtown.

**Mark Cocker**  
**Bird Watching Workshop**  
**Galloway House Gardens,**  
**Garlieston 6pm (Free)**

The author of *Crow Country* leads a dusk crow watch at one of Scotland's largest rookeries. Attendees are asked to make a donation to the garden trust.

**Film**  
**Ring of Bright Water**  
**(Jack Couffer, 1969)**  
**Bladnoch Distillery 8.30pm (Bar**  
**opens 8pm) (£5)**

Virginia McKenna and Bill Travers star in this adaptation of local hero Gavin Maxwell's masterpiece. London is no place to raise a slippery otter, so Graham (Bill Travers) takes "Mij" to live in a ramshackle cottage on the Scottish coast. It is not long before he finds himself falling in love with more than just the beautiful scenery.

**TUESDAY 2 OCTOBER****Poetry in the Wilds**  
**Making Time with Jackie Galley**  
**Wigtown County Buildings -**  
**Nature Reserve Viewing Room**  
**10am - 3pm (£3)**

Make time to explore the landscape around Wigtown Bay with this combined writing workshop and guided walk. Ecologist poet Jackie Galley, with support from Elizabeth Tindal of the D&G Council Ranger Service, will look at the effects of time and tides on the local landscape and wildlife, and get you started on writing poems based on your observations. Places are limited to 15, so book early.

## Jack Hunter

### Galloway Byways – Out-takes and Updates

County Buildings 1pm (£5)

The historian expands the scope of his recent book on less well-known aspects of Galloway's past, dealing with topics that could not be accommodated in "Byways" and newly discovered information on some of its subjects.

## The National Trust for Scotland

### Hornel's Home and Heritage

County Buildings 2.30pm (£5)

Sally Eastgate, the property manager of Broughton House in Kirkcudbright discusses the importance of this little known treasure of a town house nestling on the banks of the river Dee, which was the home and studio of Glasgow School artist E A Hornel.

## Chris Bain

### Cold War, Hot Wings

County Buildings 4pm (£5)

The retired Harrier and Hunter pilot describes his career in the RAF from 1962 – 1994 in which he saw active fighter service in the Radfan campaign and throughout the British withdrawal from Aden and the Middle East. His work in Washington DC with the US Defence Intelligence Agency during the first Gulf War provides a fascinating insider's account of the way army missions are planned in the USA.

## John Hudson, Rab Wilson, Terry McDonagh and Ger Reidy

### Wild Poetry from the West

County Buildings 7pm (£5)

Two well-known poets from the southwest corner of Scotland return from a visit to Kiltimagh, on the west coast of Ireland. They share the stage with poets Terry McDonagh and Ger Reidy from County Mayo and discuss how its wild landscapes have inspired and influenced

their work. (In association with DGAA and the D & G Leader + Programme)

## Film

### Red Road

Bladnoch Distillery 8.30pm (£5)

Andrea Arnold's Jury Prize-winning film at the 2006 Cannes Film Festival stars Wigtownshire's Kate Dickie as a CCTV security operator who recognises a passer-by and tracks him down for an intimate showdown.

## WEDNESDAY 3 OCTOBER

## Eoin McNamee

12:23: Paris. 31st August 1997

Festival Marquee 11am (£5)

What really happened on the night of Princess Diana's death? Eoin McNamee's latest novel weaves a tautly written conspiracy thriller around her protectors and enemies. Here the author of *Resurrection Man* and *The Ultras*, who has been described as the heir to John Le Carré, talks about the ethics and practicalities of writing fiction based on real life. *Sponsored by Waterstone's*

## Reading Groups

### "Meet the Author" Lunch

County Buildings 12.30pm £10 (£5 for Friends and Reading Groups)

Enjoy a glass of wine and light lunch in the company of some of the day's speakers.

## Marista Leishman

### Reith of the BBC

Festival Marquee

1.30pm (£5)

Lord Reith is revered as the founder of the BBC. But, in his private life, this son of the Manse was a domineering figure who admired Hitler and tyrannised his own family. In a remarkably candid family memoir, his daughter reveals the feet of clay of a broadcasting pioneer.



**Kenneth Steven****Salt and Light****County Buildings 3pm (£5)**

*Salt and Light* is Kenneth Steven's seventh collection of poems from St Andrew Press. Much of the work is inspired by the wild landscapes of the Hebrides and by Celtic Christianity. Calming, meditative magic.

**Mary Contini****Dear Olivia****Festival Marquee 3pm (£5)**

Mary Contini is a renowned cook and partner in Edinburgh's famous Valvona & Crolla delicatessen. In the follow-up to her hugely successful *Dear Francesca*, she reveals the untold story of her Italian family's struggle to make a new life for themselves in Britain. A moving insight into the lives of the first Italian-Scots and a mouth-watering call to the kitchen. *Sponsored by Ravenstone Deli.*

**Sir Kenneth Bloomfield****Government and Mis-Government in Northern Ireland****County Buildings 4.30pm (£5)**

As the former head of the civil service in Northern Ireland, Sir Kenneth Bloomfield had a ringside view of what he calls its 'government and misgovernment'. His often controversial analysis offers a fascinating insider's view of the Troubles.

**Galloway Consort****Making Waves****Bladnoch Distillery 7.30pm (£5)**

New writing and music on a watery theme, with poets Jackie Galley and Vivien Jones. Musicians Richard Jones, Michael Hendry and Becky Hendry weave an eclectic mix of folk, blues, jazz, contemporary and classical music through the spoken word.

**THURSDAY OCTOBER 4****NATIONAL POETRY DAY**

Wigtown Festival Company invites you to celebrate National Poetry Day in Scotland's National Book Town. Today's programme brings you a rich variety of poetry in a rich variety of languages. From Louis de Paor's work in the Irish language and Teresa Pascual's poems in Catalan, to the anthologies by Dumfries and Galloway school pupils and hospital patients, we aim to show how poetry can transcend some of life's accepted boundaries and bridge the gap between differing cultures.

**Dumfries & Galloway****Secondary Schools****CREATE Writers Fellow****Anthology Launch****Festival Marquee 11.15am****(Free, but ticketed)**

The acclaimed poet, Aonghas MacNeacail, who works as Writers Fellow with school pupils across the south of Scotland, presides over the launch of the Writers Fellow Anthology. Young writers from schools across Dumfries & Galloway will converge on Scotland's Book Town to join him and read poetry from their anthology.

# Children's Festival Programme

## Children's Marquee, South Main Street

The children's marquee is situated behind The Old Bank Bookshop, on South Main Street, to the right of the County Buildings.

### SATURDAY 29 SEPTEMBER

**Renita Boyle and Heather Bestel**

#### Tale Blazers

Children's Marquee 1 pm (£2)

#### All Ages

Join Renita and Heather, our very own storytellers extraordinaire. They have been working in our local primary school over the past six weeks and this event promises lots of audience participation. Parents are welcome.

**Douglas the Magic Clown**

Children's Marquee 2pm (Free)

Our favourite magician joins us for some clowning around. *Sponsored by Wigtown Rainbows.*

**The National Theatre of Scotland**

#### A Sheep Called Skye

Distillery 2.30pm – 4pm (£5)

#### Ages 5+

Skye the sheep is used to being different. She never knew her mother and was brought up in a B&B, not on a farm. She longs to discover a place where a sheep who doesn't feel sheepish really belongs. Featuring live music and puppets, this children's show will appeal to anyone with an ear for the bleat of a special sheep and an eye for the beauty of the Scottish countryside.

**Catherine Rayner**  
**Augustus and his Smile**

Children's Marquee  
3pm (£2) Ages 4 - 8

Augustus the tiger was sad. He had lost his smile. So he did a HUGE tigery stretch and set off to find it. The author



talks about her beautiful picture book (which has been short-listed for the Royal Mail Awards for Scottish Children's Books and the Kate Greenaway Award).



The audience is invited to join in with drawing, a tiger quiz and sharing what we know about tigers. Come along early for face painting.

**Derek Gray**

#### Illustrations and Cartoons

Children's Marquee 4pm - 6pm  
(£2) Ages 8 to adult

The art school graduate with an honours degree in printmaking now pursues a freelance art career. He has drawn storyboards for a number of feature films, TV dramas and commercials and, as an illustrator and cartoonist, his clients include the Scottish Executive, the BBC, the Guardian and Scottish Natural Heritage. In 2006, Derek's work was included in Fizzers, a caricature exhibition of famous Scots that was held at the Scottish National Portrait Gallery. This workshop is a must for anyone interested in cartoons and caricature.

### SUNDAY 30 SEPTEMBER

**Anita Govan**

#### Performance Poetry

Children's Marquee 12 noon  
(£2) Ages 10+

Anita Govan's performance poetry resonates with the rhythm and moods of everyday life. She organised the first performance poetry slams in Scotland and is a passionate advocate of poetry, running workshops and performing around the world. Despite suffering from severe dyslexia, Anita delights in the power and possibilities of language.

**Jill Dow****Windy Edge Farm**

Children's Marquee

1pm (£2) Ages 3 - 8

Join the author and illustrator of the *Windy Edge Farm* books, and find out more about the characters from her



books, including Webster and Hepzibah. Jill has also illustrated books for other authors and will be demonstrating simple illustration techniques, so come ready to join in.

**Allan Burnett****'...And All That'**

Children's Marquee

4pm (£2) Ages 7+

Scotland's blood-spattered history at its most wickedly entertaining. Find out how Bonnie Prince Charlie was born to get into trouble, laugh your head off at the heart-breaking royal romance of Mary Queen of Scots, and shout "freedom!" from your seats at the exploits of William Wallace.

**Book Trust Event**

Scottish Book Trust

**The Royal Mail Awards**

Children's Marquee 2 pm (£2)

Family event, ages 4+

What are the Royal Mail Awards for Scottish Children's Books? Philippa Cochran from the Scottish Book Trust will explain all before handing over to two of those shortlisted for this year's awards – author and illustrator Catherine Rayner and illustrator Lindsey Gardiner. Catherine will read from her beautiful picture book, *Augustus and his Smile*, while Lindsey will show the audience how to make their very own Diesel "the wonder dog" character.

**Renita Boyle****Parable Fun for Little Ones**

Children's Marquee 3pm (£2)

Ages 2+

Who is Silly Billy? What are Mac and Mick building? What did Jolly Molly find? Where is Little Lamb? Why is Grandma Guddle in such a muddle? How does Good Sammy come to the rescue? Will Tired Tim ever get any sleep? Discover the answers to all these questions and more at a book launch event with Wigtown's own author and storyteller.

**TUESDAY 2 OCTOBER****Bookstart Event**

Library 10am (Free) Under 5's

Come along to the library and, under the expert guidance of Christine Johnstone from Dumfries and Galloway Libraries, you will learn new rhymes, rediscover old favourites and use your fingers and toes to join in with the action and fun.

**FRIDAY 5 OCTOBER****PowerPod**

Outside the County Buildings

(Free)

Need to charge up your mobile phone or source power for a summer camp, or to whiz up a milkshake? No trouble, if you have a "PowerPod" on hand. A purpose-built trailer fitted with solar panels, photo-voltaics and a wind generator, this mobile source of green energy was planned and designed by the Edinburgh Woodcraft Folk and built by students from the School of Engineering at Heriot-Watt University. Find out more about this, and other developments in renewable energy with scientists from the University of Edinburgh and local secondary school pupils. *Sponsored by the Co-op, British Association (BA) and the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC).*



## Family event

### Spill the Beans/Tickling in Public

Main Marquee in the Gardens  
6pm (£3 per family)

Join festival favourites Paul Cookson, Dave Harmer, Stewart Henderson and Beverley Mathias for an evening of hilarious poetry. They have been working with local primary schools over the past two days so come along with the kids and see what they have been preparing for you!

## SATURDAY 6 OCTOBER

### Bookmaking Workshop

Children's Marquee

10.30am - 12.30pm (£2) 5+  
(younger children must be accompanied please)

This fun, two-hour workshop will see parents and children working together on a reading and writing project. Led by Anne Dunford and Beverley Mathias, participants will be challenged to get creative with wrapping paper, magazines and catalogues to produce an illustrated fiction or non-fiction book. Shape books, pop-up or zig-zag books – it's your choice. Limited places - book early!

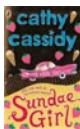
### Cathy Cassidy

#### Sundae Girl

Children's Marquee

12.30pm (£2) 8+

Local author, the fab Cathy Cassidy, returns to the Festival to talk about her two new books. "Sundae Girl" is a story of magic, mayhem and ice-cream dreams. "Lucky Star" is Cathy's fave book because Mouse is her fave character. Mouse, now 14, is doing his best to stay out of trouble ... Afterwards, visit Cathy's camper van and take part in some Friendship Festival activities. Be there!



## BookStart Event

Library 1.15pm (Free)  
Under 5's

Jennifer Burns from Dumfries & Galloway Libraries will lead a session for younger readers on "My Favourite Picture Books".

## Linkum Doddy

### Family event

Wigtown Primary School 2pm  
(Free)

The culmination of work in local primary schools, this popular event is returning to the Festival with a medley of songs and poems in local dialect. *Sponsored by Dumfries & Galloway Housing Partnership.*

## SUNDAY 7 OCTOBER

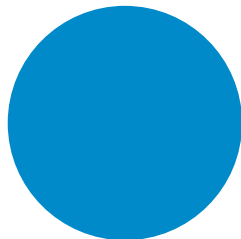
### Nicola Morgan

#### The Highwayman's Footsteps

Children's Marquee 1pm (£2)

Ages 10+

The award-winning author will talk about the gruesome ideas behind her books, including "The Highwayman's Footsteps", a dramatic and thrilling historical adventure which has been short-listed for this year's Royal Mail Awards for Scottish Children's Books. We will also get a sneak preview of "The Highwayman's Curse", the sequel, which is set in Galloway and is due out in November. Nicola will also talk about her other works, including "Blame my Brain" and "Know Your Brain", books on grey matter which are a must for parents and teenagers! This will be followed by a question and answer session.





## Scoular Anderson Space Pirates Children's

**Marquee 2pm (£2) Ages 4+**

Come along to this interactive session with Scoular Anderson, author of "Space Pirates and the Treasure of Salmagundy" and "Space Pirates and the Monster of Malswomp". Meet Captain Tosca and her motley crew - Navigator Needlespune, Engineer Dogzbooddi and cabin boy, Coleslaw - as they go in search of clues to find the missing pirate treasure. You will learn how Scoular writes and illustrates these brilliant map-reading adventure books but will you find the treasure? There will be lots of audience participation and a prize for the best-dressed Space Pirate so let your imagination run riot.



## Douglas the Magic Clown Wigtown Primary School 3pm (Free)

More clowning around. What will he do next?

## OUTREACH PROGRAMME

As part of our outreach programme, Terry McDonagh and Ger Reidy, poets from the West of Ireland, will be visiting local primary schools during the week. Paul Cookson, Dave Harmer, Stewart Henderson and Beverley Mathias will be running workshops in local primary schools on 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> October. On 5<sup>th</sup> October at 1.45pm, Dr David Reay, the Edinburgh University geoscientist, will hold an all-ages event in Wigtown County Buildings, entitled "Climate Change Begins at Home".

## WESTword

The Creative Education Arts Team (CREATE) is delighted to be working with Wigtown Book Festival in 2007 to highlight WESTword: a contemporary writers festival for young people in Dumfries and Galloway.

The aim of WESTword is to introduce contemporary authors to school pupils across the region and to encourage a love of and joy in reading and writing of all kinds. In addition to attending professional writers' workshops in schools, pupils will visit Wigtown throughout the Festival to meet authors.

WESTword provides a rare opportunity for pupils to meet and celebrate contemporary literature in all genres: poetry, monologue, reading, rap, scripts, prose, fiction and journalism. Anthologies published as a result of WESTword will be shared through [www.createdumfriesandgalloway.com](http://www.createdumfriesandgalloway.com)

The WESTword programme includes: Cathy Forde, Cathy Cassidy, Alan Bissett, Colin Bateman, Ian MacPherson, Magi Gibson, Gerry Loose, Matthew Fitt, Ger Reidy and Mandy Coe.

## Alan Stewart

### **Wildlife Detective: A Life Fighting Wildlife Crime** County Buildings 11.15am (£5)

For 40 years Alan Stewart has policed the countryside, becoming Scotland's first dedicated wildlife policeman. In this compelling memoir, he tells of outwitting poachers, poisoners and osprey egg thieves, while explaining why conservation crime-fighters are essential to any civilised society.

## Louis de Paor & Aonghas MacNeacail

### **Irish Gaelic meets Scots Gaidhlig**

#### Festival Marquee 1.30pm (£5) (Free to school pupils)

Louis de Paor, the Director of Irish Studies at Ireland's National University in Galway is one of the best-known poets in the Irish language. Aonghas MacNeacail is one of the most highly considered poets in Scots Gaelic. Come and discover how closely related these two ancient languages really are, as you hear poetry from their latest collections.

## Dumfries & Galloway Royal Infirmary

### **Patients' Poetry Anthology** County Buildings 1.30pm (Free, but ticketed)

It is generally accepted that the arts can play an important role in health care. The Palliative Care service in Dumfries & Galloway Royal Infirmary has been at the forefront of practice in this context and, under the guidance of their own Writer in Residence, Judi Benson, published a collection of patients' work. Come and hear how therapeutic and restorative poetry-writing can be.

## The Scottish Poetry Library Catalan Poetry Anthology

### Festival Marquee 3pm (Free, but ticketed)

Suppressed by Franco's Spain for decades, the Catalan language has seen a huge resurgence in recent years. The Scottish Poetry Library launches its anthology of Catalan poetry with Teresa Pascual, from Valencia, reading from her work and poet Anna Crowe reading her translations into English. Introduced by Robyn Marsack, Director of The Scottish Poetry Library.

## John Calder

### **Autumn Journal by Louis MacNeice**

#### Bladnoch Distillery 7.30pm (£5)

Written in the last months of 1938, when war was expected and feared, Autumn Journal is one of the best-loved narrative poems of the 20th-century. One hundred years after Louis MacNeice was born in Belfast, his masterpiece is performed by two actors. Introduced by Samuel Beckett's former publisher, John Calder.

## FRIDAY 5 OCTOBER

### **D&G Readers' Day**

#### Festival Marquee 10am to 4pm

(In association with Dumfries & Galloway Libraries, Information and Archives, and Dumfries & Galloway Arts Association)

Wigtown Book Festival Readers' Day is a rattle bag of quizzes, book discussion groups, presentations from Book Group members and, of course, our author sessions. This year we are delighted to offer a double bill of biography and fiction from Maggie Fergusson and Janet Paisley, two of Scotland's most respected authors. Members of the public are welcome to attend either or both sessions.

## Maggie Fergusson George Mackay Brown

Festival Marquee 10am  
– 12.30pm (£5)



*George Mackay Brown: A Life* is an extraordinary portrayal of the Orcadian poet who is one of Scotland's best-loved writers. This first biography of the reclusive genius won the Scottish Arts Council Biographical Book of the Year and the Saltire First Book of the Year awards, and was shortlisted for the Costa Biography award. Maggie will discuss the challenges she faced when writing the biography and answer your questions.

## Janet Paisley Not For Glory

Festival Marquee 2pm – 4pm (£5)

An award-winning writer of prose, poetry, plays and scripts, Janet is one of the nation's most popular writers and performers. Her work gives voice to those who are often forgotten. Today she talks about and reads from *Not For Glory*, her 2001 collection of inter-linked short stories set in a small village in central Scotland, where life is 'like livin oan an intersection whaur everythin goes by and nothin comes in'.

## David Reay Climate Change Begins at Home

County Buildings 1.45pm (£5)

It's all very well watching documentaries about melting ice caps or reading about government targets to reduce emissions, but what we really need to know are the practical ways in which we can individually help reduce climate change. David Reay, lecturer in geophysics at the University of Edinburgh, tells an all-ages audience how we can all do our bit to save the planet.

## The Tom Morton Show 2.05pm BBC Radio Scotland

Tune in your radios as our guest, Tom Morton, broadcasts his afternoon show from Wigtownshire.

## Donna Brewster and Sarah Beattie Wigtown's Slavery Connection

County Buildings 4pm (£5)

In this anniversary year of the abolition of the Slave Trade, we consider the not inconsiderable part played by Wigtown in this terrible trade. The author of *The House That Sugar Built* talks to cookery writer, Sarah Beattie, a descendant of the Heron family of Wigtown which owned plantations in the Caribbean. The talk will be followed by a visit to "Barbados Villa" in Station Road, built in 1835 by a wealthy Wigtown sugar trader.

## Fitzwilliam String Quartet Wigtown Parish Church 6pm (£8)

One of Britain's best-loved chamber-music ensembles plays Borodin's Quartet No 2 and Schubert's String Quintet in C Major. With Moray Welsh (cello). (*A West Fest event, supported by Dumfries and Galloway Council.*)

## Tom Morton Whisky Tasting

Bladnoch Distillery 8pm (£5)

Bringing a selection of whiskies, including the most northerly malt from his home in Shetland, to Scotland's most southerly distillery, the broadcaster and journalist invites you to join him in a celebration of our national drink. *Sponsored by document-records.com*

## Michael Gray In Search of Blind Willie McTell Bladnoch Distillery 9pm (£5) (Both for £8)



In his part travelogue, part biography, the leading authority on Bob Dylan journeys to America's deep south to uncover the story of this early country blues artist. Born into a family that had taken its name from their Scottish plantation owner, Willie McTell became one of the foremost blues artists of his time. *Sponsored by document-records.com*

## SATURDAY 6 OCTOBER

**David Pratt**

### **Intifada: The Long Day of Rage**

**Festival Marquee 10.30am (£5)**

The 'Intifada' has become a byword for resistance to Israeli occupation in the Occupied Territories. Yet, despite the term's frequent use, most people remain unclear what it is or how it began. In this incisive book, David Pratt, foreign editor of the *Sunday Herald*, explains the origins of the Palestinian uprising.

**Janet Paisley**

### **White Rose Rebel**

**County Buildings 10.30am (£5)**

Based on the extraordinary true story of Colonel Anne Farquharson of Invercauld, who fought for the Jacobites in 1745, Janet Paisley's new novel explores the grand themes of civil war, love and marital discord, loyalty and betrayal, women's rights and national identity with an unforgettable cast of characters. "A hot little kilt-lifter", *Sunday Times*.

**Janice Houghton-Wallace**

### **The Complete Guide to Raising Turkeys**

**The Old Bank Bookshop 10.30am (£5)**

Trapped by its status as the Christmas main course, the life of the average turkey is not to be envied. In her new book *Not Just For Christmas*, the country's leading authority on heritage turkeys argues that these wonderful birds deserve better.

**Rosie Boycott**

### **Our Farm**

**Festival Marquee 12 noon (£8)**

After a horrific road accident, broadcaster and former Independent on Sunday editor Rosie Boycott decided to rethink her life, renting a small farm



in Somerset. Our Farm tells the life-affirming story of a year in the life of her smallholding – as the former city slicker learns the hard way to be self-sufficient.

**Frederick Taylor**

### **The Berlin Wall County Buildings 12 noon (£5)**



During the night of 12-13 August 1961, a barbed-wire entanglement was hastily constructed through the heart of Berlin. It metamorphosed into a structure that would come to symbolise the insanity of the Cold War: the Berlin Wall. Frederick Taylor's book is the definitive account of a divided city and its people in a time when humanity stood permanently on the edge of destruction.

**Tobias Jones**

### **Utopian Dreams: In Search of a Good Life**

**The Old Bank Bookshop 12 noon (£5)**

Fed up with urban life, the writer and his family spent a year visiting idealistic communities: from retirement homes to hippy villages, Quaker settlements to orphanages. His quest? To discover whether utopian living is possible. "An erudite, informed and provoking exploration of community and individuality," *Sunday Telegraph*.

**Christopher Brookmyre & Colin Bateman**

### **'Tartan Noir' Meets 'Belfast Noir'**

**Festival Marquee 1.30pm (£5)**

A summit meeting between two of the UK's most darkly funny thriller writers. Scotland's Christopher Brookmyre (*Attack of the Unsinkable Rubber Ducks*) talks bent cops, bombs and biting satire with Northern Ireland's Colin Bateman (*Divorcing Jack and I Predict A Riot*)  
*Sponsored by Waterstone's*

**Sir Mark Allen****Arabs****County Buildings 1.30pm (£5)**

Until recently head of the Foreign Office's Middle East desk, Sir Mark Allen's knowledge of the Arab world is matchless. His brilliant analysis of faith, culture and attitudes to power explains much about the contradictions, restlessness and tension now seen in the region.

**Dumfries Writers****Anthology Launch****The Old Bank Bookshop****1.30pm (Free but ticketed)**

The Dumfries-based creative writing group launch their latest anthology. Come and meet the writers and listen as they read from their work.

**Joanna Blythman****Bad Food Britain:  
How A Nation Ruined  
Its Appetite****Festival Marquee 3pm (£8)**

To the French and Italians, the need for good food is a sign of civilisation. So why are the British content to consume rubbish? Britain's most entertaining and provocative food writer talks to broadcaster **Sheena MacDonald** about dog-burgers, E numbers and why, as a nation, the UK is eating itself to death.

**John Simonon****My Father, Georges Simonon****County Buildings 3pm (£5)**

Best known for the Maigret detective novels, Georges Simonon was a prolific writer for over 40 years. A great adventurer and womaniser, he became a legend in his own right for his private life as much as for his work. Here, the writer's son, John, talks about his father's extraordinary life. *This event is chaired and sponsored by Ming Books to mark their 25th anniversary.*

**Jim Hewitson****The Search for Scottish  
Identity****The Old Bank Bookshop 3pm (£5)**

Every nation is the product not only of its geography and past but also of its icons. Scotland has found many ways to brand itself, from tartan to Trainspotting. But in the modern age, which images should be cultivated and which consigned to history's dustbin? Jim Hewitson offers some humorous suggestions.

**Brian Keenan****Four Quarters of Light - an  
Alaskan Journey****Festival Marquee 4.30pm (£8)**

Inspired from an early age by Jack London's *The Call of the Wild*, the Belfast-born author of *An Evil Cradling* travels across one of the world's most inhospitable landscapes. He discovers that true wilderness is as much a state of mind as it is a place. Brian talks to BBC correspondent **Allan Little**. *Sponsored by Historic Newspapers*

**Film****Black Gold****County Buildings 4.30pm –  
6.30pm (Free, but ticketed)**

Nick and Marc Francis's documentary is a call to "wake up and smell the coffee". In an eloquent plea for fair trade, this quietly powerful film focuses on the battle of Ethiopian farmers to obtain a fair price for their coffee beans. "Angry, good-humoured and essential", *The Observer*. *Sponsored by The Co-operative Society.*

**Andrew Smith & Nicholas Royle**

**Moon dust (and Stardust)**

**Bladnoch Distillery 6pm (£5)**

The author of *Moon dust*, Andrew Smith, tracked down all of the last surviving men who walked on the moon. Here he tells the inside story of the Apollo XI landing, using original film. He talks with novelist, short-story writer and astronomy fan Nicholas Royle about the grip space exerts on writers' imaginations.

**James May**  
**20th Century**

**Inventions**

**Bladnoch Distillery**

**7pm (£8)**

The twentieth century was a time of extraordinary change as new technologies and new inventions emerged at a bewildering rate. The Top Gear presenter discusses the iconic themes of the century: flight, space travel, television, mechanised war, medicine, video games, electronic music, skyscrapers and electronic espionage. He talks to **Phil Dolling**, the BBC producer of the TV tie-in series. *Sponsored by Allan McDowall Electrical*



**The Anna Massie Band**

**Bladnoch Distillery 8.30pm (£8)**

The best folk group at the 2006 Scots Trad Music Awards, and winners of a BBC Radio 2 Horizon prize, kick up a storm in Bladnoch. The Anna Massie Band are Anna Massie (fiddle, mandolin, guitar, tenor guitar, tenor banjo), Mairead Green (accordion, bagpipes) and Whithorn's own Jenn Butterworth (guitar and vocals).

**The Wigtown Sky at Night**

**Wigtown Harbour**

**9pm (Free)**

Galloway boasts some of the clearest skies in Britain. Join Iain MacDonald of the Newton Stewart Observatory to

unlock their secrets. Participants are advised to bring their own binoculars.

**SUNDAY 7 OCTOBER**

**Football match**

**Festival FC vs Wigtown & Bladnoch XI**

**Wigtown Football Club 11am**

They may be able to hold a pen but can they string more than a few passes together? A team of visiting writers take on Wigtown's finest for the inaugural Scottish National Book Town Trophy. Let battle commence!

**Jim Hewitson**

**The Scots at Sea**

**Festival Marquee 11am (£5)**

With 11,250 miles of coast, Scotland has always been heavily dependent on the sea. The Orcadian author celebrates the nation's maritime history, focusing on some of the major aspects of that remarkable story – including whaling, shipbuilding, fishing, naval warfare, emigration and exploration. *Sponsored by Galloway Smokehouse.*

**James Delingpole**

**How To Be Right**

**County Buildings 11am (£5)**

Do you ever feel that modern Britain has gone mad? James Delingpole agrees. Part polemic, part amusing opinion, but mostly hilarious rant, *How To Be Right* takes issue with all he perceives to be wrong with our politically correct society.

**Liz Lochhead**

**Desert Island Books**

**County Buildings 1pm (£5)**

Rarely at a loss for a joke, the Motherwell-born poet and playwright is one of the most well-kent and best loved figures on Scotland's literary scene. Here she talks about her life and work, while whittling down her library to 10 essential books.



## National Library of Scotland Explorers

County Buildings 1pm (£5)

Nat Edwards guides us through the journals of some of our greatest explorers, which form part of the John Murray Archive. One highlight is the original David Livingstone manuscript, *Narrative of an Expedition to the Zambesi and its Tributaries*, which covers his journey down the Zambesi River in 1865.

## Rosemary Goring

**Scotland: The Autobiography**

Festival Marquee 2.30pm (£5)

The author talks to **Sheena McDonald** about her account of Scotland's history, as witnessed by those who experienced it first-hand. Using the words of inventors and writers, factory workers and shipbuilders, survivors of Bannockburn and Culloden, Goring builds an engrossingly original picture of the nation's past.

## Robert Twigger

**Lost Oasis**

County Buildings 2.30pm (£5)

On childhood holidays in Galloway, Robert Twigger decided to become an adventurer. Since then, he's rowed across the Rockies, hunted the world's biggest snake and learnt aikido with Tokyo's riot police. The award-winning author's latest book follows in the footsteps of Laszlo Almasi, inspiration for *The English Patient*, as he tries to find the lost oasis of Zorzura, the Sahara's equivalent of Atlantis.

## Nicola Sturgeon

**In Conversation**

Festival Marquee 4pm (£5)

The Deputy First Minister of Scotland draws the festival to a close with a reflection on Alex Salmond's administration's first 150 days in power, with an insight into her vision for Scotland's future.

## Festival Staff

Michael McCreath – Festival Director  
John Robertson – Finance  
Jenny Bradley – Administration  
Shaun Bythell – Sponsorship  
Adrian Turpin – Programme  
Anne Barclay – Administration  
Rhiannon Batten – Publicity & Media  
Andrew Forster – Reading Groups  
Fiona Murphie – Children's Programme  
Alice Stilgoe – Films

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## Festival Team

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Jennifer Burns  
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# How To Book For This Year's Festival

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

**Festival Office, FREEPOST NAT5359, Wigtown, Newton Stewart DG8 9BR**

Payment can be:

**BY CHEQUE** made payable to 'Wigtown Festival Company'

**BY CREDIT/DEBIT CARD** (Visa/Mastercard/Delta/Switch/Maestro)

valid from \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

expiry date \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

issue number (Switch/Maestro) \_\_\_\_\_

card number

name on card \_\_\_\_\_

## BY PHONE

Tel: 01988 403222 or 01988 402036

## ONLINE BOOKING VIA OUR WEBSITE

24 hours per day, 7 days per week, [www.wigtownbookfestival.com](http://www.wigtownbookfestival.com)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Benefactors and Friends 10% discount on all pre-booked tickets.**

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 further information please tick the following boxes.

Festivals  Bookshops  Book Fairs   
Street Markets  Community Events

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.



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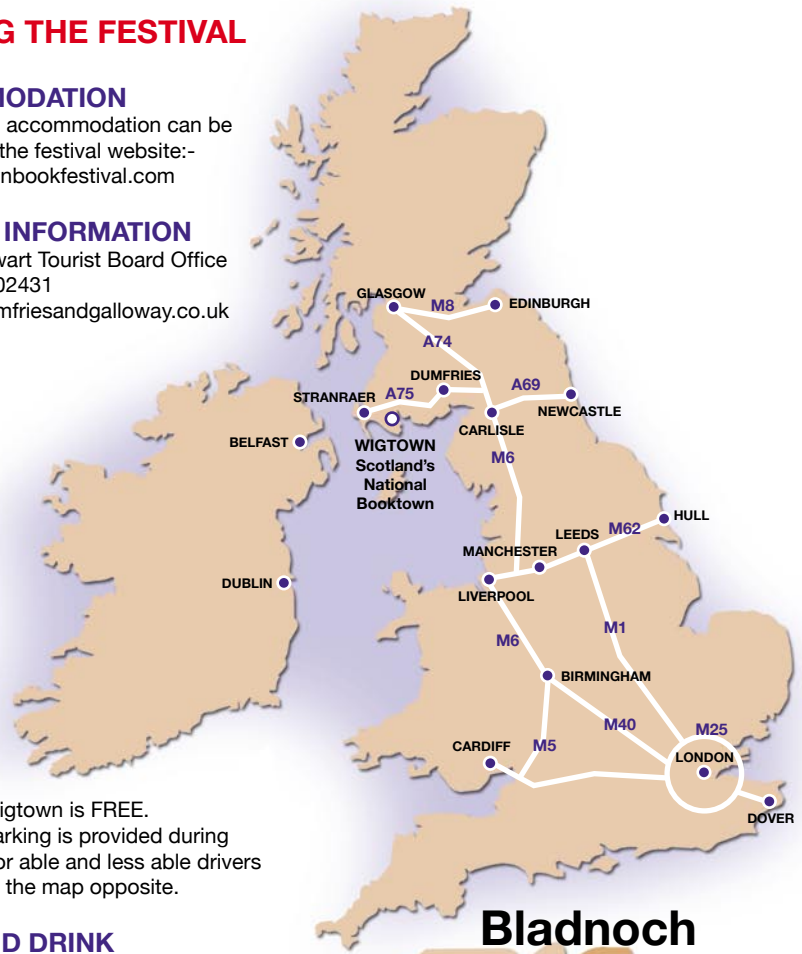
## VISITING THE FESTIVAL

### ACCOMMODATION

A list of local accommodation can be obtained on the festival website:-  
[www.wigtownbookfestival.com](http://www.wigtownbookfestival.com)

### TOURIST INFORMATION

Newton Stewart Tourist Board Office  
 Tel: 01671 402431  
[www.visitdumfriesandgalloway.co.uk](http://www.visitdumfriesandgalloway.co.uk)



### PARKING

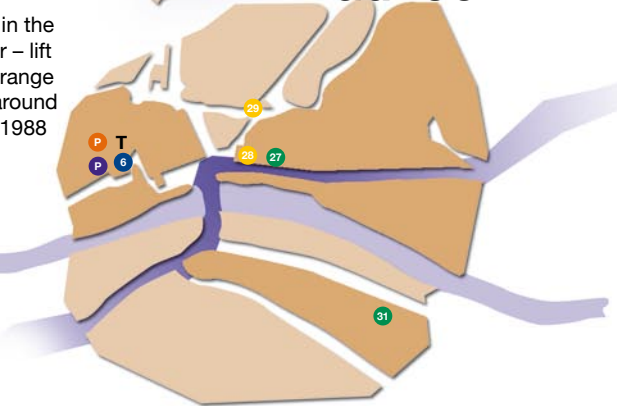
Parking in Wigtown is FREE.  
 Additional parking is provided during the festival for able and less able drivers as shown on the map opposite.

### FOOD AND DRINK

The Festival Cafe will be located in the County Buildings on the first floor – lift access available. There is also a range of eating establishments in and around Wigtown. Details as follows (all 01988 numbers)

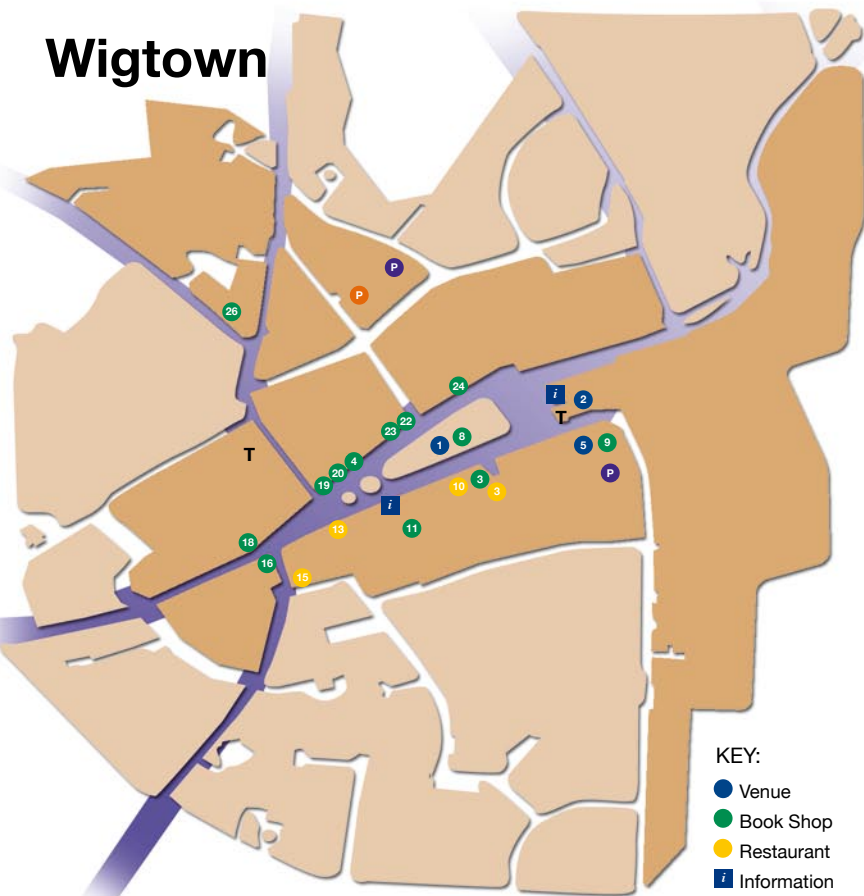
Bladnoch Inn	402200
Café Rendezvous	402074
Fordbank Hotel	402346
Galloway Inn	402431
Glaisnock	402249
ReadingLasses	403266
Wigtown Ploughman	403236

## Bladnoch



VISITING WIGTOWN AND BLADNOCH

# Wigtown



## KEY:

- Venue
- Book Shop
- Restaurant
- i Information
- P Disabled Parking
- P Festival Parking
- T Toilet

Festival Marquee	<span style="color: blue;">1</span> Byre Books	<span style="color: green;">11</span> Historic Newspapers	<span style="color: green;">24</span>
County Building	<span style="color: blue;">2</span> Wigtown Ploughman	<span style="color: yellow;">13</span> Aa 1 Books	<span style="color: green;">26</span>
ReadingLasses	<span style="color: green;">3</span> <span style="color: yellow;">3</span> Cafe Rendezvous	<span style="color: yellow;">15</span> Transformer	<span style="color: green;">27</span>
The Book Shop	<span style="color: green;">4</span> Book Corner	<span style="color: green;">16</span> Bladnoch Inn	<span style="color: yellow;">28</span>
Children's Marquee	<span style="color: blue;">5</span> Cauldron	<span style="color: green;">18</span> Fordbank Hotel	<span style="color: yellow;">29</span>
Bladnoch Distillery	<span style="color: blue;">6</span> The Bookend Studio	<span style="color: green;">19</span> GC Books	<span style="color: green;">31</span>
Festival Bookshop	<span style="color: green;">8</span> Box of Frogs	<span style="color: green;">20</span>	
Old Bank Book Shop	<span style="color: green;">9</span> Tideline Books	<span style="color: green;">22</span>	
Glaisnock Restaurant	<span style="color: yellow;">10</span> M.E. McCarty	<span style="color: green;">23</span>	





Wigtown Festival Office  
County Buildings  
Wigtown DG8 9JH  
Tel: 01988 403222  
[www.wigtownbookfestival.com](http://www.wigtownbookfestival.com)

Wigtown Book Town Company  
and Dumfries & Galloway Arts Association Present

# The Wigtown Poetry Competition 2007

in association with: Scottish Poetry Library

SCOTLAND'S NATIONAL POETRY COMPETITION

**£2500**  
**FIRST PRIZE**

**LAUNCHED AT THE 2007 WIGTOWN BOOK FESTIVAL  
ON 29th September with Judge: Robert Crawford**

Entry details available from 29th Sept from Andrew Forster  
on 01387 253383 or [andrew@dgaa.net](mailto:andrew@dgaa.net)

Funded by Leader +



## Wigtown Bookshops

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

### Aa1 Books

Unit 3, Duncan Park  
Tel: 01988 402434

### Book Corner

2 High Street  
Tel: 01988 402010

### Byre Books

24 South Main Street  
Tel: 01988 402133

### Cauldron

3 High Street  
Tel: 01988 402417

### GC Books

Unit 10, Bladnoch Bridge Estate  
Tel: 01988 40 26 88

### M E McCarty

13 North Main Street  
Tel: 01988 402062

### Old Bank Book Shop

7 South Main Street  
Tel: 01988 402111

### ReadingLasses Bookshop

17 South Main Street  
Tel: 01988 403266

### The Bookend Studio

23 North Main Street  
Tel: 01988 402403

### The Bookshop

17 North Main Street  
Tel: 01988 402499

### The Box of Frogs

Children's Bookshop  
18 North Main Street  
Tel: 01988 402255

### Tideline Books

12 North Main Street  
Tel: 01988 402526

### Transformer

26 Bladnoch  
Tel: 01988 403455

