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write.

Glasgow's **BOOK** Festival

19 – 28 May 2023

MICHAEL PALIN • RUBY WAX • DARREN MCGARVEY

VAL MCDERMID • ALASTAIR CAMPBELL

ELEANOR CATTON • JOLYON MAUGHAM • AASMAH MIR

IAN DUNT • POLLY TOYNBEE • ROBIN INCE • JUDY MURRAY



Visit ayewrite.com to book your tickets
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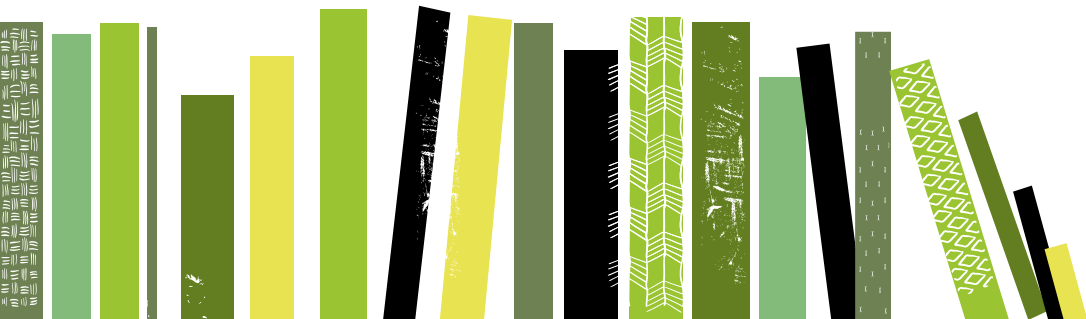
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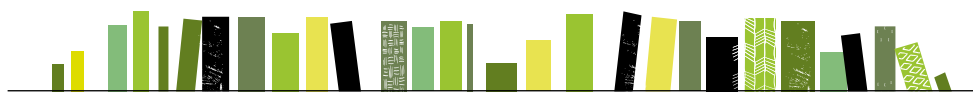


Supporters

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Welcome from Bailie Annette Christie

Chair of Glasgow Life and Glasgow City Council Convenor for Culture, Sport and International Relations

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to our 2023 programme for Aye Write, Glasgow's Book Festival.

Founded in 2005, this much-loved celebration of books and literature is always an unmissable highlight of our city's vibrant cultural calendar. And this year's packed Aye Write programme promises an exceptional literary line-up to entertain, enlighten and inspire audiences from near and far.

A fantastic range of established and emerging writing talent will be showcased in 120 events that will bring together 175 authors from Scotland and around the world for captivating and insightful discussion and lively debate.

The breadth of topics and themes explored through a diverse array of voices and perspectives is extraordinary. Fiction and non-fiction content focuses on subjects as broad-ranging as true crime, music, the political landscape, health and wellbeing, the climate crisis, memoir, and social inequality issues.

Whether you come along to meet your favourite authors, discover new names making their literary debut in the 'Ones To Watch' series, enjoy the return of 'The Books That Made Me', or attend 'Getting Creative' masterclasses to nurture your own writing talent and skills, the extensive choice of dynamic events really does offer something for everyone.

If that wasn't exciting enough, we also have our fabulous festival spin-off for younger readers, Wee Write, to look forward to. Following Aye Write on 2 – 9 June, this celebration of the wonderful wealth of books for children and young people features a host of fun family events and activities designed to encourage and inspire a lifelong love of reading.

The literary quality and breadth of choice that's integral to both festivals is testimony to the dedication and enthusiasm of our talented teams and volunteers. We are indebted too to our funders and sponsors, and to everyone joining us for these special events. I do hope you all enjoy a very enjoyable and memorable experience of them.

WEDNESDAY 17 MAY

Ruby Wax

I'm Not as Well as I Thought I Was

GRCH | 6.30pm – 7.30pm

FRIDAY 19 MAY

Brian Bilston

Days Like These

GRCH | 6pm – 7pm

Daniel Chandler

Free and Equal

GRCH | 6pm – 7pm

Daniel Chandler's *Free and Equal* offers an alternative to the cynicism that pervades our politics and brings an opportunity to transform contemporary debate.

Francesca Sobande and

Layla-Roxanne Hill

Black Oot Here: Black Lives in Scotland

GRCH | 6pm – 7pm

What does it mean to be Black in Scotland today? How are notions of nationhood, Scottishness, and Britishness implicated in this?

Darren McGarvey

The Social Distance Between Us

GRCH | 7.30pm – 8.30pm

Jenny Boyd and Kim Hawes

Music, Marriage and

Management: A Rocky Road

GRCH | 7.45pm – 8.45pm

Jenny Boyd's memoir *Jennifer Juniper* relays her life as a model, at the heart of Carnaby Street in London, immersed in the fashion and pop culture of the swinging '60s. Kim's memoir *Lipstick and Leather* tells how she smashed the glass ceiling of the male dominated music industry, blazing a trail for women today.

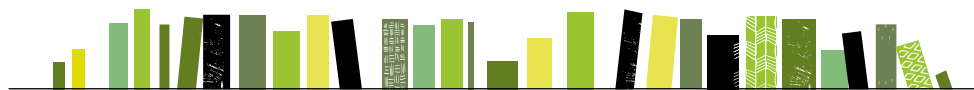
Leila Aboulela and

Lorraine Wilson

Lyrical, Evocative Fiction

GRCH | 7.45pm – 8.45pm

Leila Aboulela's *River Spirit* is the unforgettable story of a people who, against the odds and for a brief time, gained independence from foreign rule. In Lorraine Wilson's *Mother Sea*, an island community facing extinction, find out if hope can rise stronger than grief?



John Robb

The Art of Darkness:

The History of Goth

GRCH | 9.15pm – 10.15pm

The Art of Darkness features interviews with The Banshees, The Cure, The Damned, Nick Cave, Einstürzende Neubauten, Bauhaus, Trent Reznor and Johnny Marr.

The Fun Lovin Crime Writers

GRCH | 9pm – 10.30pm

SATURDAY 20 MAY

Hadley Freeman

Good Girls: A Story and Study of Anorexia

GRCH | 11am – 12noon

Alex Gray and Caro Ramsay

Dad Men and Devils

GRCH | 11am – 12noon

Kirsty Wilson

Planting with Nature

GRCH | 11am – 12noon

Kirsty Wilson is the presenter on BBC's *Beechgrove* and *Planting With Nature* aims to support anyone who wants to boost nature in their patch and help make the world a little greener.

Gurdeep Loyal & Urvashi Roe

A Celebration of Big Flavours

GRCH | 11am – 12noon

Emma Smith chaired by

Val McDermid

Portable Magic: A History of Books and their Readers

GRCH | 12.45pm – 1.45pm

In association with the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals in Scotland (CILIPS).

Chris Mullin

Didn't You Use to Be Chris Mullin? (Diaries 2010 – 2022)

GRCH | 12.45pm – 1.45pm

Doug Johnstone, Ever Dundas & Martin Macinnes

Profound, Spellbinding Fiction

GRCH | 12.45pm – 1.45pm

Doug Johnstone's *The Space Between Us* is set in an Edinburgh where extra-terrestrial forces are at play. Ever Dundas's *HellSans* is set in a fictional UK, where a ubiquitous typeface is the ultimate control device. *In Ascension* by Martin MacInnes is a compassionate, deeply inquisitive epic that confronts the greatest questions of existence.

Paul Burston and Jack Parlett
Love, Loss and Liberation

GRCH | 12.45pm – 1.45pm

Paul Burston's *We Can Be Heroes* is an illuminating memoir of the 80s, 90s and 00s from a gay man who only just survived them. Jack Parlett's *Fire Island* leads the reader through the early days of the island's life as a home for same-sex love, to the present where new challenges threaten the island's future.

Polly Toynbee

An Uneasy Inheritance: My Family and Other Radicals

GRCH | 2.30pm – 3.30pm

Francisco Garcia

We All Go into The Dark: The Hunt for Bible John

GRCH | 2.30pm – 3.30pm

Shaun Bythell

The Remainders of the Day

GRCH | 2.30pm – 3.30pm

Ryan Love, Fran Littlewood and Lynsey May

Aye Write's Ones To Watch

GRCH | 2.30pm – 3.30pm

Aye Write prides itself on spotlighting new talent and punchy stories. Debut novels by Ryan Love, Fran Littlewood and Lynsey

May will feature in this 'Ones To Watch' event which explores personal journeys in families

Graeme Armstrong, K Patrick & Camilla Grudova

Granta Best of Young British Novelists

GRCH | 4.15pm – 5.15pm

Jolyon Maugham

Bringing Down Goliath: How Good Law Can Topple the Powerful

GRCH | 4.15pm – 5.15pm

Luca Veste & Craig Robertson

Two Crime Writers and a Microphone

GRCH | 4.15pm – 5.15pm

St. Mungo's Mirrorball

Poets Open Mic

GRCH | 4.15pm – 5.15pm

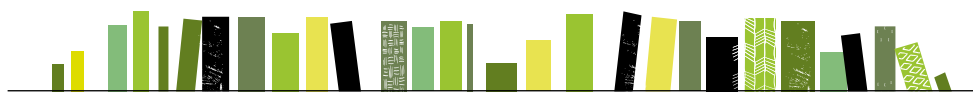
Mark Pajak & Denise Saul

Jim Carruth's Ones to Watch

GRCH | 6pm – 7pm

Mark Pajak's assured and arresting first collection, *Slide*, moves deftly and with purpose into private, hidden places.

Denise Saul's debut collection, *The Room Between Us*, explores family and identity.



James McIntyre

Jimmy Two Guns: The Life and Crimes of a Gangland Lawyer

GRCH | 6pm – 7pm

Malachi O'Doherty and Ben Collins

The Future(s) of Ireland

GRCH | 6pm – 7pm

Malachi O'Doherty's *How To Fix Northern Ireland* asks what can be done to solve a centuries-old social rift and heal the relationship at the heart of the problem. Ben Collins' *Irish Unity: Time To Prepare* sets out a multitude of political, social and economic benefits of removing the border on the island of Ireland.

Val McDermid in conversation with Louise Welsh

1989

GRCH | 6pm – 7pm

Alastair Campbell

But What Can I Do? Why Politics Has Gone So Wrong and How You Can Help Fix it
City Halls | 7.45pm – 8.45pm

Sponsored by The Open University in Scotland.



Willy Maley, Lisa Croft, Jennie Renton and Tam Watters

Our Fathers Fought Franco

GRCH | 7.45pm – 8.45pm

Untold stories continue to emerge about the Scots volunteers who fought in the Spanish Civil War. Our *Fathers Fought Franco* traces the extraordinary journeys of four volunteers – featuring music from The Wakes.

Mark Billingham and Chris Brookmyre's Dirty Weekend

GRCH | 7.45pm – 8.45pm

Harriet Gibsone and Anne-Marie Imafidon

CTRL Panel

GRCH | 7.45pm – 8.45pm

In *She's In CTRL*, computer scientist Dr Anne-Marie Imafidon, a dynamic advocate for women in STEM, calls time on women being cut out of the tech story. Harriet Gibsone's *Is This OK?* explores a woman's experience of the online world, a place where obsessive searching can feed neuroses and insecurities.

Jill Dawson and Anya Bergman

The Witches of Scotland

(live podcast recording)

GRCH | 9.15pm – 10.15pm

Join Zoe Venditozzi & Claire Mitchell KC for a live recording of this popular podcast with two acclaimed novelists. Jill Dawson's *The Bewitching* draws on the 16th-century case of the witches of Warboys and Anya Bergman's *The Witches of Vardo* is set in Norway, 1662.

Tom Clark and Daniel Trilling with Maria Croce

Broke: Fixing the Poverty Crisis

GRCH | 9.15pm – 10.15pm

In *Broke*, Tom Clark assembles today's Master of Social reportage to go deep into the communities so often ignored by politicians, introducing us to those at the hardest end of the poverty crisis. Tom and Daniel will be in conversation with Maria Croce of Community Justice Scotland.

Rachelle Atalla and Andrew James Greig

Timely, Speculative Thrillers

GRCH | 9.15pm – 10.15pm

Two Scottish-set ecological thrillers that may hit a little too close to home!

SUNDAY 21 MAY

Dean Burnett

Emotional Intelligence

GRCH | 11am – 12noon

John McGlade and Emma Grae Striking Scottish Voices

GRCH | 11am – 12noon

John McGlade's *Invisible Schemes*, is a biting satire that shines a light on the marginalized working class and how reality, time, and all other certainties are blurred beyond recognition to those who aren't paying attention.

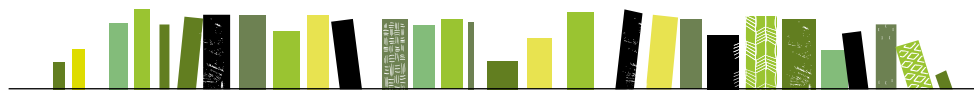
Emma Grae's *The Tongue She Speaks*, explores issue of identity, language, prejudice and teenage bullying.

Emily Kenway & Pope Lonergan Who Cares? The Value of Care Today

GRCH | 11am – 12noon

Emily Kenway's *Who Cares: The Hidden Crisis of Caregiving, and How We Solve It* is an investigation into the crisis of care at both a global and an individual level.

Pope Lonergan's *I'll Die After Bingo* is an important memoir that challenges us all to think differently about the value of our elderly.



James Crawford and Matthew Green

A Journey Through Lost Places

GRCH | 12.45pm – 1.45pm

In *The Edge of the Plain* James Crawford explores how borders have grown and evolved to take control of our landscapes. In *Shadowlands*, historian Matthew Green tells the extraordinary stories of Britain's landscapes that have been drowned, buried by sand, decimated by the plague or plunged off a cliff.

Pip Fallow and Daniel Gray

Working Class Heroes

GRCH | 12.45pm – 1.45pm

Pip Fallow's *Dragged Up Proppa: Growing Up In Britain's Forgotten North* is the story of a lost generation who were prepared for a life that had disappeared by the time they were ready for it. Daniel Gray's *Mon The Workers* is a celebration of 125 years of the STUC, and a clarion call for the next generation to agitate, organise and win.

Mo Wilde

The Wilderness Cure

GRCH | 12.45pm – 1.45pm

Set against the backdrop of climate change, Brexit and the impending recession, Mo Wilde's *The Wilderness Cure* is a diary of a

wild experiment; to live only off foraged food for an entire year.

Cameron McNeish

An Eye to the Hills

GRCH | 2.30pm – 3.30pm

Laurie Parsons

Carbon Colonialism: How Rich Countries Export Climate Breakdown

GRCH | 2.30pm – 3.30pm

Sara Sheridan and Kim Sherwood

Immersive, Historical Fiction

GRCH | 2.30pm – 3.30pm

In Sara Sheridan's *The Fair Botanists* (Waterstones Scottish Book of the Year) the women who worked at the Botanic Gardens are given their rightful place in history.

Kim Sherwood's *A Wild & True Relation* remakes the eighteenth-century novel and challenges women's writing and women's roles throughout history.

Rafael Behr

Politics: A Survivor's Guide

GRCH | 4.15pm – 5.15pm

Award-winning journalist Rafael Behr's *Politics: A Survivor's Guide* gives some hope that there is a better way of doing politics.

Peter Ross

Steeple Chasing: Around Britain by Church

GRCH | 4.15pm – 5.15pm

Sally Adee

We Are Electric

GRCH | 4.15pm – 5.15pm

Every cell in our bodies – bones, skin, nerves, muscle – has a voltage, like a tiny battery. In *We Are Electric*, award-winning science writer Sally Adee explores the history of bioelectricity.

Josie Long in conversation with Frankie Boyle

Because I Don't Know What You Mean and What You Don't

GRCH | 6pm – 7pm

Timothy Phillips

The Curtain and the Wall

GRCH | 6pm – 7pm

In *The Curtain and the Wall* Timothy Phillips tells the tale of a landmark journey along the full length of the old Iron Curtain – from the Arctic Circle to Turkey's eastern border.

Sally Magnusson

Music in the Dark

GRCH | 7.45pm – 8.45pm

Sponsored by The Open University in Scotland



Don Paterson

Toy Fights: A Boyhood

GRCH | 7.45pm – 8.45pm

Exquisitely sharp, deeply humane and brutally hilarious, Don Paterson's *Toy Fights: A Boyhood* chronicles a turbulent, dysfunctional and frequently hilarious childhood on a Dundee housing estate.

Stuart Cosgrove with Janice Forsyth

Hey America! The Epic Story of Black Music and the White House

GRCH | 9.15pm – 10.15pm

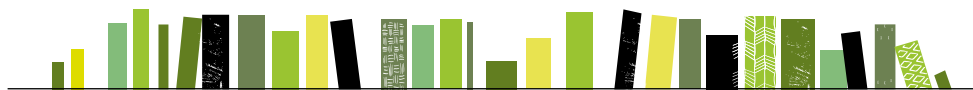
TUESDAY 23 MAY

Em Strang and Peter Bennett

Visceral, Scottish Novels

GRCH | 6pm – 7pm

Quinn is an unforgettable novel about memory and radical forgiveness from award-winning Scottish poet Em Strang. Peter Bennett's *Liberties* explores the impact of sectarianism, alcohol and drugs, and the inequality enabled in the post-industrial reincarnation of Glasgow.



Dave Rich

Everyday Hate

GRCH | 6pm – 7pm

Dave Rich's *Everyday Hate* takes you on a journey through the contentious and often confusing subject of Antisemitism.

Tom Nancollas

The Ship Asunder: A Maritime History of Britain in Eleven Vessels

GRCH | 6pm – 7pm

In *The Ship Asunder*, Tom Nancollas goes in search of eleven relics that together tell the story of Britain at sea and celebrates the richness of Britain's seafaring history.

Lennie Goodings

The Books That Made Me

GRCH | 7.45pm – 8.45pm

The legendary Virago publisher who has worked with writers such as Angela Carter, Maya Angelou and Margaret Atwood will be discussing the five books that have impacted her the most.

Malachy Tallack and

Patrick Galbraith

Wild Places and Wildlife

GRCH | 7.45pm – 8.45pm

Malachy Tallack's *Illuminated By Water* tells of his passion for fishing since he was young. Patrick Galbraith's *In Search of One Last Song* is a story about going in search of the people who are trying to save our birds.

WEDNESDAY 24 MAY

Anna Keay and

Hannah Rose Wood

Nostalgia Isn't What It Used to Be

GRCH | 6pm – 7pm

Anna Keay's *The Restless Republic: Britain Without A Crown* is the story the tempestuous years that set the British Isles on a new course. In *Rule, Nostalgia: A Backwards History Of Britain*, Hannah Rose Wood explores how nostalgia has shaped Britain.

Olga Wojtas and

Ian Macpherson

Some Most Unusual Crime

GRCH | 7.45pm – 8.45pm

In Olga Wojtas *Miss Blaine and the Weird Sister* Shona McMonagle is back for a crucial mission involving time travel, Macbeth,

the Weird Sisters and a black cat. Ian Macpherson's *Hewbris* is a post-modern crime anti-thriller where life is good for reformed stand-up Hayden McGlynn.

Julian Baggini
How To Think Like A Philosopher
GRCH | 7.45pm – 8.45pm

THURSDAY 25 MAY

Craig Smith
The Scottish Enlightenment
The Mitchell Library | 6pm – 7pm

This collection of 11 specially commissioned essays, edited by Craig Smith of Glasgow University, examines the transformative contribution of the Scottish Enlightenment to modern life.

Diana Evans and Derek Owusu
Looking Back to Where They Came From
GRCH | 6pm – 7pm

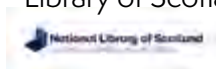
Two spellbinding novels examine the immigrant experience and the stories we share and tell about our lives.

Angus Peter Campbell and Louise Welsh
Electricity

The Mitchell Library
7.45pm – 8.45pm

In pencil-written and drawing-spattered notebooks intended for her Australian granddaughter, an elderly woman, now in Edinburgh, remembers and relives her Hebridean childhood.

Sponsored by the National Library of Scotland.



Flora Fraser and James Jauncey
The Politics of Scottish Biography
GRCH | 7.45pm – 8.45pm

In *Pretty Young Rebel*, award-winning biographer Flora Fraser tells the remarkable, adventurous and daring story of Flora Macdonald. James Jauncey's biography of Cunninghame Graham (co-founder, with Keir Hardie, of the Scottish Labour Party) is a fantastic combination of Don Quixote and Sir Gawain, Indiana Jones and the Lone Ranger.



Michael Pedersen and Tanya Frank

Memoirs of Love and Humanity

GRCH | 7.45pm – 8.45pm

An intimate pair of memoirs of love, grief, male friendship and the love between a mother and son.

In *Boy Friends*, poet and author Michael Pedersen writes about the loss of a cherished friend, Scott Hutchison.

Tanya Franks' *Zig-Zag Boy* is a journey along the tough frontiers of love and madness as she comes up against broken healthcare systems in the UK and the US.

Cathi Unsworth

Season of the Witch: The Book of Goth

GRCH | 9.15pm – 10.15pm

Cathi Unsworth provides the first comprehensive overview of the music, context and lasting legacy of Goth.

FRIDAY 26 MAY

Aasmah & Almas Mir

A Pebble In The Throat: Growing Up Between Two Continents

GRCH | 6pm – 7pm

A Pebble In The Throat is an eloquent and often heart-breaking memoir of Aasmah Mir's childhood growing up in 1970s Glasgow. Intricately woven into this coming-of-age story is that of Aasmah's mother, Almas, as we follow her own life as a young woman in 1950s Pakistan to 1980s Scotland and beyond.

Kieran Yates and Charmain Bynoe

Housing Projects

GRCH | 6pm – 7pm

Kieran Yates's *All The Houses I've Ever Lived In: Finding Home In A System That Fails Us* mixes memoir, with social commentary in an unflinching examination of the UK's chaotic housing system. Charmain Bynoe's *The Estate: My Life Working on the Front Line of Britain's Housing Crisis* shines a light on the challenges faced by so many people.

Eve Smith and Todd Westbrook
Prescient, Climate Thrillers

GRCH | 6pm – 7pm

Eve Smith's *One* is a speculative thriller in which a cataclysmic climate emergency has spawned a one-child policy in the UK, ruthlessly enforced by a totalitarian regime. In Todd Westbrook's *S6 the Red Cross* is trying to locate a missing oil worker and solve the riddle of what happened to the experimental drilling platform Sligachan 6.

Janey Godley
Nothing Left Unsaid

GRCH | 7.45pm – 8.45pm

Author, actor and award-winning comic Janey Godley discusses her poignant, funny and quietly devastating murder mystery novel, *Nothing Left Unsaid*, which tells the story of Senga and Sharon spanning Glasgow in 1976 and 2019.

Lesley Riddoch and Neil Findlay
The Future(s) of Scotland

GRCH | 7.45pm – 8.45pm

In their new books, *Thrive* and *Hope & Despair*, Lesley Riddoch and Neil Findlay reflect on the ever-changing world of Scottish politics and explore why independence is still such a hot topic.

Elle Nash & Karl Geary
Intimate, Authentic Fiction

GRCH | 7.45pm – 8.45pm

Elle Nash's *Nudes* is a short story collection that begins with a story of an ex sex-worker drifting through a rural town, and ends with a young woman's sinister wedding night. Karl Geary's novel *Juno Loves Legs* is a vivid novel of childhood friendship about being young, being hurt, being seen and, most of all, being loved.

Kirsty Logan and Heather Parry
Imaginative, Intoxicating Fiction

GRCH | 9.15pm – 10.15pm

Dealing with loss and desiring revenge, two women join forces in Kirsty Logan's mesmeric dark tale *Now She is Witch*. Heather Parry will be discussing both her debut novel, *Orpheus Builds a Girl*, and her latest short story collection – *This Is My Body, Given For You*.

Rick Buckler and Zoë Howe
The Jam 1982

GRCH | 9.15pm – 10.15pm

The Jam 1982 is a revealing oral history of the final year of this iconic British group. The drummer, Rick Buckler, will be in conversation with co-author Zoë Howe, taking us from the recording of their final studio album to The Jam's last appearances together.



SATURDAY 27 MAY

Kenny Pryde

The Medal Factory: British Cycling and the Cost of Gold

GRCH | 11am – 12noon

Kenny Pryde's *The Medal Factory* tells the full story of British Cycling from amateurish beginnings through a sports-science revolution to an all-conquering, yet flawed, machine.

Supported by Glasgow Life, as host of the inaugural 2023 UCI Cycling World Championships.

Ali Millar

The Last Days: A Memoir of Faith, Desire and Freedom

The Mitchell Library

11am – 12noon

Ali Millar was born into the Jehovah's Witnesses in a town in the Scottish Borders. A tale of love and darkness, of faith and absolution, *The Last Days* is an unforgettable memoir of one woman's courageous journey to freedom.

John Reid

The Eagle and the Bear: A New History of Roman Scotland

GRCH | 12.45pm – 3.45pm

Alex Howard

The Ghost Cat

GRCH | 12.45pm – 1.45pm

Follow Alex Howard's *The Ghost Cat* as he purrs, shuffles and sniffs his way through the fashion, politics and technological advances of the modern era alongside the ever-changing inhabitants of an Edinburgh tenement.

Sarah Tomas, JJ Scott and Wiz Wharton

Aye Write Ones to Watch

The Mitchell Library

11am – 12 noon

Debut novels by Sarah Tomas, JJ Scott and Wiz Wharton will feature in this 'Ones To Watch' event which platforms some of our best new writers.

Beth Frieden

Acair san talamh / Anchor in the Land

The Mitchell Library

12.45 – 1.45pm

Beth Frieden's debut pamphlet of poems moves back and forth across the Atlantic to explore family and nature with humour and curiosity. Written in Scottish Gaelic and English by an American immigrant to Scotland, these are poems that thrill in the wild and the intimate.

Ross Raisin and Neil Blackmore **Exquisite Character Studies**

GRCH | 12.45pm – 1.45pm

Ross Raisin's *A Hunger* is a novel about love and sacrifice; how illness and duty affect ordinary lives – exploring what it means to look after somebody at the end of a life. Neil Blackmore's *Radical Love* is a sensuous and prescient story about gender and sexuality, and how the most vulnerable survive in dangerous times.

Dr Annabel Sowemimo **and Dr Ike Anya**

Hidden Histories in Healthcare

GRCH | 2.30pm – 3.30pm

Dr Annabel Sowemimo's *Divided* exposes the racial biases of medicine that affect our everyday lives and provides an illuminating insight into how our world works. *Small By Small* by Ike Anya is a medical memoir taking us from the colour and vibrancy of tempestuous 1990s Nigeria, to contemporary Scotland.

James Naughtie & Ava Glass **Spies at Home and Abroad**

GRCH | 2.30pm – 3.30pm

Roger Emerson

Land of Stone: A Journey through modern architecture in Scotland

The Mitchell Library

2.30pm – 3.30pm

Amina Shah

The Books That Made Me

The Mitchell Library

2.30pm – 3.30pm

Amina Shah, Chief Executive Officer at the National Library of Scotland, will be discussing the books that have had a significant impact on her life.

Stuart Johnstone, Hayley Ness **and Lee Curley**

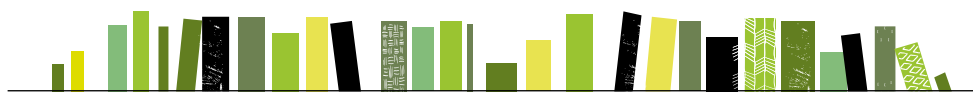
**Conviction or Acquittal
– You Decide**

The Mitchell Library | 3pm – 5pm

Edinburgh-based crime writer Stuart Johnstone, Hayley Ness, a specialist in Applied Cognitive Psychology and Lee Curley, a psychologist with The Open University will be leading this interactive, immersive workshop exploring the verdicts available in a jury trial in Scotland, with an emphasis on exploring the topical 'not proven' verdict.

Sponsored by The Open University in Scotland.





Arthur Snell

How Britain Broke the World

GRCH | 4.15pm – 5.15pm

Former senior British diplomat Arthur Snell's *How Britain Broke The World* critically assesses UK foreign policy over the past 25 years, from Kosovo in 1998 to Afghanistan in 2021.

Robin Ince

Bibliomaniac: An Obsessive's Tour of the Bookshops of Britain

GRCH | 4.15pm – 5.15pm

Jenny Colgan and Karen Swan

Island Romances

The Mitchell Library

4.15pm – 5.15pm

Jenny Colgan's latest novel *The Summer Skies* takes us to the windswept islands of northern Scotland, where we meet young Morag McGinty, who runs the flights that serve the islands' feisty population. Karen Swan's *The Stolen Hours*, is set in the summer of 1929 on St Kilda where Mhairi MacKinnon is in need of a husband and her options are limited.

Alan Parks and Robbie Morrison

Prize-winning Glasgow Crime

The Mitchell Library

4.15pm – 5.15pm

To Die In June, from McIlvanney Prize-winner Alan Parks, sees Harry McCoy go undercover as he investigates a string of suspicious deaths among Glasgow's homeless community. *Cast A Cold Eye* is the latest novel from Robbie Morrison and is the sequel to *Edge of the Grave*, winner of Bloody Scotland's Scottish Crime Debut of the Year.

Ian Dunt in conversation with Ruth Wishart

How Westminster Works

... and Why It Doesn't

GRCH | 6pm – 7pm

Colin Grant and Tomiwa Owolade

Why Black Lives in Britain Matter

GRCH | 6pm – 7pm

In Tomiwa Owolade's *This is Not America* he argues that too much of the conversation around race in Britain today is viewed through the prism of America. Colin Grant's memoir, *I'm Black So You Don't Have to Be* is told through a series of intimate intergenerational portraits which inform Grant's own shifting sense of his identity.

**Kate Foster, Chris Carse Wilson
and Angie Spoto**

Aye Write's Ones To Watch

The Mitchell Library

6pm – 7pm

Debut novels by Kate Foster, Chris Carse Wilson and Angie Spoto will feature in this 'Ones To Watch' event which platforms some of the best new writers in Scottish fiction. The authors will all be in conversation with Sara Sheridan.

**Neil Lancaster, Carole
Johnstone and Fulton Ross**
Something Dark Up North

The Mitchell Library

6pm – 7pm

In Neil Lancaster's *The Night Watch* a lawyer is found dead on a clifftop on the northernmost tip of Scotland. In Carole Johnstone's *The Black House* there's a remote village, a deadly secret and an outsider who knows the truth. In Fulton Ross's *The Unforgiven Dead* the Highland shores are home to Constable Angus 'Dubh' MacNeil.

Anna Motz

A Love That Kills

GRCH | 7.45pm – 8.45pm

Introducing us to eleven ordinary women who came to commit extreme acts, Anna Motz – one

of Britain's leading forensic psychotherapists – sheds light on women's capacity for violence. In *A Love That Kills* Motz takes the reader on a journey into psychotherapy, uncovering their motives and the fault lines in their psyche that led to their crimes.

**Ruaraidh G. MacIlleathain
(Roddy Maclean)**

Cha Till Mise

The Mitchell Library

7.45pm – 8.45pm

Cha Till Mise ('I will not return') is a splendidly researched and grippingly presented history in Gaelic of the Arctic Convoys of 1941–45.

**Bob Last, Malcolm Ross
and Douglas MacIntyre**

We Could Send Letters

GRCH | 8.30pm – 10pm

Douglas MacIntyre's *Hungry Beat* is a definitive oral history of record labels Fast Product in Edinburgh and Postcard Records in Glasgow and the Scottish post-punk period. Event includes a live performance from Douglas MacIntyre, Malcolm Ross and Campbell Owens (plus Norman Blake and Tam Dean Burn on vocal).



SUNDAY 28 MAY

Rebecca Smith

Rural: The Lives of the Working Class Countryside

GRCH | 11am – 12noon

Rural: The Lives of the Working Class Countryside is an exploration of our green and pleasant land, and the people whose labour has shaped it.

Colin Renton

The Wine Runner

GRCH | 11am – 12noon

Colin Renton's *The Wine Runner* takes us on a year-long adventure that takes him from the busy streets of Edinburgh to the traffic-free roads, sodden fields and dusty paths of Europe's winemaking regions. He laces up his running shoes and introduces us to a vintage crop of engaging characters.

Caroline Vout

Exposed: The Greek and Roman Body

GRCH | 12.45pm – 1.45pm

In *Exposed: The Greek and Roman Body* classicist Caroline Vout reaches beyond texts and galleries to expose Greek and Roman bodies for what they truly were: anxious, ailing, imperfect, diverse, and responsible for a legacy as lasting as their statues.

Fiona Matthews and Tim Kendall

Adventures With Britain's Wild Mammals

GRCH | 12.45pm – 1.45pm

Fiona Matthew's and Tim Kendall's *Black Ops and Beaver Bombing: Adventures with Britain's Wild Mammals* is a celebration of Britain's marvellous mammals, and a rallying cry to save them. From water voles in Glasgow to seals in the Isles of Scilly, Britain is teeming with wildlife.

Martin Griffin, Callum McSorley and Alice Slater

Aye Write's Ones to Watch

GRCH | 12.45pm – 1.45pm

Crime fiction debut novels by Martin Griffin, Callum McSorley and Alice Slater will feature in this 'Ones To Watch' event.

Amanda Thomson and Sarah Thomas

Belonging in Nature

GRCH | 2.30pm – 3.30pm

Reflecting on family, identity and nature, *Belonging: Natural Histories Of Place, Identity and Home* from Amanda Thomson is a personal memoir about what it is to have and make a home. *The Raven's Nest* from Sarah Thomas is a meditation on place, identity and how we might live in an era of environmental disruption.

Matthew Dennison

Roald Dahl: Teller of the Unexpected

GRCH | 12.45pm – 1.45pm

Roald Dahl was one of the world's greatest storytellers. Matthew Dennison's biography *Teller Of The Unexpected* examines surviving primary resources as well as Dahl's extensive literary output to tell the story of a man who identified as a rule-breaker, an iconoclast and a romantic, both insider and outsider, hero and child's friend.

Charlie Connelly

The Shipping Forecast

GRCH | 2.30pm – 3.30pm

With the shipping forecast reaching its centenary in 2024 Charlie Connelly, author of the bestselling travel book *Attention All Shipping*, presents a timely celebration of this much-loved broadcasting institution.

Jim Carruth & Liz Lochhead

A Happy Makar Birthday

GRCH | 4.15pm – 5.15pm

Join Glasgow's two living laureates to celebrate two milestone birthdays.

Liz Lochhead has just turned 75 and has been Makar for both city and country and has been awarded the Queen's Gold Medal for Poetry. Jim Carruth is the current poet

laureate of the city and has just qualified for his free bus pass.

This event is in association with The Tannahill Fund.

Gilbert Achcar

The New Cold War

GRCH | 4.15pm – 5.15pm

With the Russian invasion of Ukraine, warnings about a 'new Cold War' proliferated. Gilbert Achcar's *The New Cold War* argues it has been ongoing since the turn of the century.

Julia Hollander and

Emma Warren

Why We Sing and Dance

GRCH | 4.15pm – 5.15pm

Why We Sing from Julia Hollander argues that singing has always been there for us, that it's at the root of what it is to be a human being. *Dance Your Way Home: A Journey Through the Dancefloor* from Emma Warren explores why we dance. Why do we dance together? What does dancing tell us about ourselves, individually and collectively.

Pat Nevin

Football and How To Survive It

GRCH | 6pm – 7pm



Coinneach MacLeod

The Hebridean Baker

GRCH | 6pm – 7pm

Coinneach MacLeod is a Global TikTok baking sensation known as *The Hebridean Baker* and he is serving up a fresh selection of exciting new recipes, charming stories, history and breathtaking photography from the Hebridean Islands.

Niki Segnit

The Flavour Thesaurus:

More Flavours

GRCH | 7.45pm – 8.45pm

Niki Segnit's *The Flavour Thesaurus* is a guide to 99 essential ingredients and their numerous flavour combinations. Whether a flavour is defined by a "grassy" ingredient like dill, cucumber, or peas, or a "floral fruity" food like figs, roses, or blueberries, flavours can be combined in wildly imaginative ways.

Coline Covington

Who's To Blame?

GRCH | 7.45pm – 8.45pm

In *Who's To Blame?*, Coline Covington questions how we have come to live in a blame culture in which the world can be categorised in terms of those who harm and those who are harmed. It is an age-old way of making sense of our suffering and injustices, of aligning ourselves with the righteous and maligning others as bad or evil.

Stuart Braithwaite

Spaceships Over Glasgow

GRCH | 9.15pm – 10.15pm

Stuart Braithwaite's *Spaceships Over Glasgow* spans a delinquent childhood, rock star hedonism and making music in Mogwai, one of the most ground-breaking post-rock bands of the past three decades.

FUTURE EVENTS



Saturday 10 June

Eleanor Catton

Birnam Wood

GRCH | 6.30pm – 7.30pm

A gripping psychological thriller from the Booker Prize-winning author of *The Luminaries*, *Birnam Wood* is Shakespearean in its wit, drama and immersion in character. A brilliantly constructed consideration of intentions, actions, and consequences, it is an unflinching examination of the human impulse to ensure our own survival.

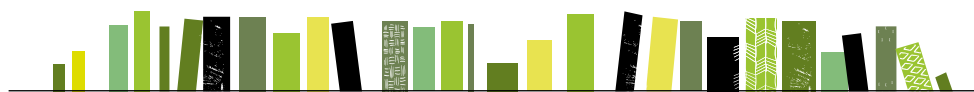
Wednesday 14 June

Judy Murray

The Wild Card

GRCH | 6.30pm – 7.30pm

The Wild Card is the debut novel from Judy Murray, full of twists, turns (and tennis)! 38-year-old Abigail Patterson put her promising tennis career on hold years ago, but after a wild card entry to Wimbledon, suddenly finds herself swept up in a world she thought she'd left behind – and what's more, she's winning! Yet Abi knows that it's only a matter of time before the press start digging into her past and uncover the secret she's kept hidden for so long...



Wednesday 21 June

Ambrose Parry
Voices of the Dead

GRCH | 6.30pm – 7.30pm

The fourth historical crime novel from the husband and wife writing team of Chris Brookmyre and Marisa Haetzman finds Will Raven wrapped up in a case involving unidentified body parts and an accomplished actor and renowned master of disguise.

Friday 23 June

Alexander McCall Smith
The Books That Made Me

GRCH | 6.30pm – 7.30pm

Alexander McCall Smith is one of the world's best-loved and most prolific authors, applauded across the globe as the author of more than 100 books. He is celebrating 25 years since the publication of *The No.1 Ladies' Detective Agency* and will be sharing the 5 books that have most inspired him with us at this session.

Friday 15 September

Rob Rinder with Steve Cavanah
The Trial

GRCH | 6.30pm – 7.30pm

The Trial is the debut novel from Britain's best-loved criminal barrister Rob Rinder. When hero policeman Grant Cliveden dies from a poisoning in the Old Bailey, it threatens to shake the country to its core. Rob will be in conversation with Steve Cavanagh, best-selling author of the Eddie Flynn series, whose latest book is a standalone, New York set thriller – *Kill for Me Kill for You*.

Sunday 1 October

Michael Palin
Great Uncle Harry

City Halls | 6.30pm – 7.30pm

From the time, many years ago, when Michael Palin first heard that his grandfather had a brother, Harry, who died in tragic circumstances, he was determined to find out more about him. *Great-Uncle Harry* is an utterly compelling account of an ordinary man who led an extraordinary life. A blend of biography, history, travelogue and personal memoir this is Michael Palin at his very finest.

CREATIVE WRITING

THE KAVYA PRIZE: GETTING STARTED

Aye Write and Kavya Prize are pleased to provide support to any budding writer of colour, who wishes to submit work for this year's prize, to access these workshops at no cost. To access your place in this class please email ayewrite@glasgowlife.org.uk to enable us using the subject line

Kavya Prize – Tawona Sithole and/or Maisie Chan.

Friday 19 May

Getting Started in Writing

Led by Tawona Sithole

The Mitchell Library | 11am – 1pm

If you're thinking of being a writer, or just want to discover how to exercising the magic inside, join Tawona for this informative and fun workshop to help you get started on a creative writing adventure. This workshop will help you to find your own style, with tips and tools of how to get beyond staring at the blank page or screen. Bring a pen, a pad and an open mind.

Tuesday 23 May

Starting to Write

Led by Maisie Chan

The Mitchell Library | 11am – 1pm

Maisie Chan knew she wanted to be a writer for years before she actually put pen to paper. The fear of writing a 'bad story' made her not write at all. Now she writes for a living and has won a few awards. What changed? How can we overcome those voices in our heads that tell us that what we're going to write will be rubbish? Maisie will give tips on how to begin a story. She will look at bringing fun back into writing, focus on characters and the elements we need to create a compelling story.

Friday 19 May

Getting Started in Journalism

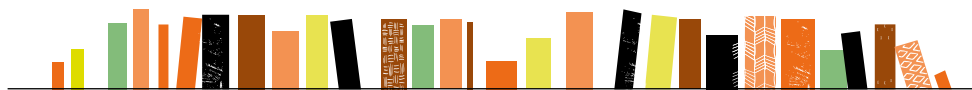
Led by Nick Sheridan

The Mitchell Library | 2pm – 4pm

Join Nick Sheridan, award-winning journalist and television presenter,

with a decade of experience working in broadcast media for a masterclass in getting to the nitty gritty of the news story.

Nick currently works for BBC News in Scotland, where he presents *Seven Days*, *Drivetime* and *Lunchtime Live*.



THE BEGINNERS SERIES

All Beginners' Series classes are delivered in partnership with Centre for Lifelong Learning (CLL), University of Strathclyde.

Get all seven events in The Beginners Series for £70

Just add each event to your basket and the discount will be deducted automatically.

Saturday 20 May

What You Need To Know About Dialogue

Led by David Pettigrew BA MPhil

The Mitchell Library

11am – 1pm

Whether you're working on fiction or non-fiction, dialogue is an essential tool in bringing your writing to life. The personalities in your writing – real people or made-up characters – will engage your reader most when they speak, but they have to do it in a believable way. In this interactive workshop delivered by the University of Strathclyde, learn the basics about creating convincing dialogue and where to use it to its best advantage.

Saturday 20 May

Give It A Go: Creative Writing

Led by David Pettigrew BA MPhil

The Mitchell Library

2pm – 5pm

Ever wondered what it takes to become a writer? All you really need is an interest in the written word and some time to devote to

it. Based around practical writing exercises and group discussion, this session delivered by the University of Strathclyde will help you to start your own writing journey and show you how to keep going. All you need to bring is a notepad, pen or pencil and your desire to give it a go.

Workshop delivered in partnership with Centre for Lifelong Learning (CLL), University of Strathclyde.

Tuesday 23 May

What You Need To Know About Point of View

Led by David Pettigrew BA MPhil

The Mitchell Library

6pm – 8pm

An understanding of 'point of view' is a key writing skill, but it is often misunderstood. This seminar delivered by the University of Strathclyde will explain the different perspectives you can employ in your writing and introduce key skills in using them effectively to help your stories make the best impression on your readers.

Wednesday 24 May

What You Need To Know About Character

Led by David Pettigrew BA MPhil
The Mitchell Library
6pm – 8pm

Characters are one of the main ingredients of a good story, and even for writers of non-fiction a key skill is the ability to bring people to life on the page. This interactive workshop delivered by the University of Strathclyde covers all you need to know about building characters: how to use your imagination and observation to create them, how to give them a personality, how to give them a voice, and how to build stories out of them.

Thursday 25 May

What you need to know about story and plot

Led by David Pettigrew BA MPhil
The Mitchell Library
6pm – 8pm

Every reader wants a good story and providing one is the objective of every writer. This interactive workshop delivered by the University of Strathclyde looks at ways of building stories that satisfy and entertain, from developing an initial idea through to creating a coherent, persuasive and compelling plot.

Saturday 27 May

What you need to know about Revision and Editing

Led by David Pettigrew BA MPhil
The Mitchell Library
11am – 1pm

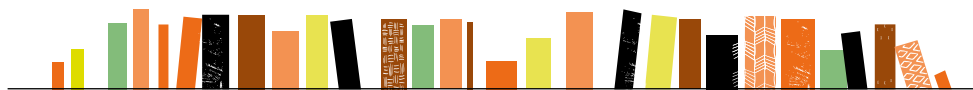
It's often said that it's not the writing that a reader sees on the page of a novel or short story – it's the rewriting. This interactive workshop delivered by the University of Strathclyde covers the basics of drafting and editing, looking at common mistakes and introducing the skills needed to refine a piece of writing so that it reaches its full potential.

Saturday 27 May

Write What You Know

Led by David Pettigrew BA MPhil
The Mitchell Library
2pm – 5pm

'Write what you know' is one of the most common pieces of creative writing advice but also one of the most misunderstood. This interactive workshop delivered by the University of Strathclyde will investigate how 'write what you know' can be interpreted in different creative ways, using exercises designed to help you find the themes and stories that matter most to you.



THE MASTERCLASS SERIES

Get all five events in The Masterclass Series for £50
Just add each event to your basket and the discount will be deducted automatically.

Thursday 25 May

Writing Real Life

Led by Dr Rodge Glass

The Mitchell Library

10am – 11am

From autobiography to biography, history books to essay writing, nonfiction is more popular than ever and it holds so many possibilities for new writers. Drawing on examples from writers writing real life happening right here in Glasgow, this session will explore how we write the world around us using the fiction writer's tools: characterization, narrative, structure.

Thursday 25 May

24/7: Poetry and the Everyday

Led by Maria Sledmere

The Mitchell Library

11.30am – 12.30pm

From lunch poems to one-day epics, dailiness has long been a vital source of poetic inspiration. In this workshop, we will explore how writers trace rhythms, encounters and units of daily time in their writing. What forms of 'extreme attention' (CAConrad) can poetry practice, and to what effect? Looking at a range

of contemporary poetry, we will engage with found materials, uses of journaling, the arts of noticing, lists and lyrics, while doing some writing experiments of our own. Open to all levels of writing experience.

Thursday 25 May

Writing the Past: Characters, Crime, and Convincing History

Led by Steven Veerapen

The Mitchell Library

1.30pm – 2.30pm

Historical crime fiction is a popular genre – but how do we write it? This session will guide people through the process and alert them to the potential pitfalls of writing the past. Advice will be given on picking periods and building convincing but relatable characters (and outfitting them to solve crimes). Discussion will then get bloodier: what kind of crimes do readers expect and how do we make them period-appropriate? What methods of detection were available? A constant throughout the session will be situating "detectives" in an authentic historical world, rich in smells, sights, and sounds.

Thursday 25 May

Structuring An Entire Novel on A Single Sheet Of Paper

Led by Andrew Meehan

The Mitchell Library

3pm – 4pm

You're beginning a novel. You've filled your notebook. But what's all this stuff? Where does it go? And how do you move it around? This workshop will encourage you to consider the shape of your novel, and then to point yourself – and your narrative – in the right direction. We'll focus on structure, which is often something people talk about when an idea just isn't working. This session will look at the decisions you make at the start of a project. You can expect practical advice – as well as practical exercises – that will help you shape your story even before you've put pen to paper.

Thursday 25 May

Caro Clarke, Simon McLean and Vikki Reilly

Publishing Experts Panel

The Mitchell Library

4.30pm – 5.30pm

Join us for the culmination of our creative writing day with a panel of experts in the publishing field who will be on hand to answer questions such as; How do I submit my writing to publishers?; Do I need to secure an agent?; Should I consider self publishing?; How much money should I expect in advance and in royalties?; What about digital, audio and international rights?

The Panel will feature Edinburgh-based literary agent Caro Clarke, Simon McLean, CEO of Glasgow-based Ringwood publishing and Vikki Reilly, Business Development Manager for Publishing Scotland.



SUPPORT US

Help us to inspire the next generation of young readers



Aye Write and Wee Write are a celebration of the power of words and stories. Every year we help thousands of children fall in love with the wonderful world of reading at our author talks and literacy workshops.

We know that when a child reads, they succeed, which is why we work hard throughout the year to deliver programmes that help young readers of all ages and skills to improve their reading and writing confidence.

Every donation makes a difference and helps us to continue to deliver these life changing programmes. A gift of £5 could pay for a child's ticket to a festival event, introducing them to the world of reading through the eyes of an author.

Visit ayewrite.com to find out how to donate and say 'Aye Care' about helping more young people fall in love with reading and the magical world of books.

Attending Aye Write

Everything you need to know ahead of attending the festival

Tickets are non-refundable.

Ticket information for Aye Write 2023 events at the Mitchell Library and Glasgow Royal Concert Hall is below.

All tickets can be collected during the festival from the Mitchell Library and Glasgow Royal Concert Hall. Please check our website for box office opening hours at the Mitchell.

In person (in advance)

Ticket collections in advance of the festival are available from Glasgow Royal Concert Hall (Mon–Sat 10am–6pm).

Booking fees

A 12% booking fee will be applied to all tickets £5 and over, including tickets bought in person at the box office.

In person (during festival time)

You can buy tickets at the Mitchell Library during the festival, but only on the dates the event takes place. The box office opens one hour before the first event of the day.

Transaction fees

Online (**www.ayewrite.com**): online purchases are subject to £1.50 booking fee per transaction.

By phone (**0141 353 8000**): phone purchases are subject to £1.75 booking fee per transaction.



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Glasgow's Book Festival for Children and Young People

SATURDAY 3 JUNE

Join us for a jam-packed and interactive
day of literacy-based fun



Featuring **One Button Benny** – **Indiana Bones** – **Bumble and Snug**
A Beast in the Basement – **Little Miss and Mr Men**
storytelling with music, singing and movement.
Plus loads more!

**Celebrate 10 years of Shifty
McGifty and Slipper Sam**

30 years of Horrible Histories

85 years of Beano Mischief

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