

SUNDAY 8th OCTOBER

11.00am-12.00noon
WRITING FROM LIFE

LIBRARY UPSTAIRS

Martin Fowler is a writer returning to his Portobello roots to talk about his work on history, prisons and what inspired him. **Steve Harvey** has travelled many different routes and explores the experiences that have led him to write *Between Dreams: Difficult Paths and Dangerous Places*. Chair: **Bill Jameson**

11.30am-1.00pm
OUTSIDE-IN

LIBRARY

How does being outside in the natural environment - particularly in its wild places - affect what happens on the inside, within the human psyche? Three authors show us how they ponder such questions in their books: **Robbie Nicol** *Canoeing around the Cairngorms*; **Victoria Whitworth** *Swimming with Seals*; **Geoff Allan** *The Scottish Bothy Bible*.
Chair: **Rona Gray**

12.30-1.30pm
SHE, HE, THEY

LIBRARY UPSTAIRS

Nathan Gale came out to his mother **Shirley Young** as transgender on their 20th birthday. In this session, mother and son discuss their book on families, gender and coping with transition.
Chair: **Christina McMellon**

1.45-2.45pm LIBRARY UPSTAIRS
ALEX AND CHARLIE: CHALLENGING GENDER STEREOTYPES

In 2015 a group of young people, supported by Young Edinburgh Action, planned and ran an event attended by about 60 young people from across Edinburgh to discuss gender. The result is *Alex & Charlie*, a story about Alex's first day at school. Come and hear those involved talk about the process.

Chair: **Christina McMellon**

1.15-2.45pm **LIBRARY**
SCOTLAND AND SLAVERY: PUTTING THE PAST IN FRONT OF US

Until very recently, Scotland has been strangely silent about its involvement in slavery and, in particular, the enormous profits derived not only from slavery but also from its abolition. Why has this silence now been broken? Three distinctive voices respond: the author and librettist, **Louise Welsh**; Jamaican-born Scots academic and human rights activist, **Geoff Palmer**; researcher and biographer, **Steve Thomson**.

Chair: **Ian Martin**

3.00-4.00pm
MEET THE AUTHOR: LESLEY GLAISTER

Lesley Glaister, award winning author, poet, playwright and teacher of writing shares an insight into her work and introduces her latest novel *The Squeeze*. Travelling between Edinburgh, Romania and Oslo, the book explores the transactions that take place between men and women with sex, money and the desire for love at its heart.

Chair: **Jane Meagher**

3.00-4.15pm
FRAE BAIRNS TAE BADDIES

Helen MacKinnon is the author of *Talk of the Town* and *Buy Buy Baby*. Both novels explore themes such as social class and identity, using black comedy and featuring Scots dialect. **Ross Sayers'** debut, *Mary's the Name*, introduces the unforgettable character of 8-year-old Mary, on the run with her Granpa following a robbery at his work. Join these authors as they discuss using dialect in their work and the delights and difficulties of having a young narrator.

Chair: **James Spence**

4.15-5.45pm
FAKE NEWS: WHAT'S NEW?

Lately much has been made of 'fake news' and 'alternative facts'. But what are we dealing with here: something new or just a new way of talking about something that is not new at all? What is the role of social media in all this? A distinguished panel discuss these questions: academic and researcher, **Rita Marcella** of Robert Gordon's University; freelance journalist and writer, **Marcello Mega**; Director of Common Weal and campaigner, **Robin McAlpine**.

Chair: **Alastair Cameron**

VENUES:

PORTOBELLO LIBRARY

14 Rosefield Avenue, Portobello EH15 1AU

PORTOBELLO BAPTIST CHURCH HALL

189 Portobello High Street, Edinburgh EH15 1EU

DALRIADA

77 Promenade, Portobello EH15 2EL

BLACKWELL'S BOOKSHOP

Books by participating authors will be available.

Tickets for all events can be collected in person from Portobello Library from 4th September. Some tickets will be available at venues 15 minutes before events.

PORTOBELLO BOOK FESTIVAL

is organized by local enthusiasts and Portobello Library.

If you have ideas or would like to be involved, please contact:
portobellobookfestival@gmail.com

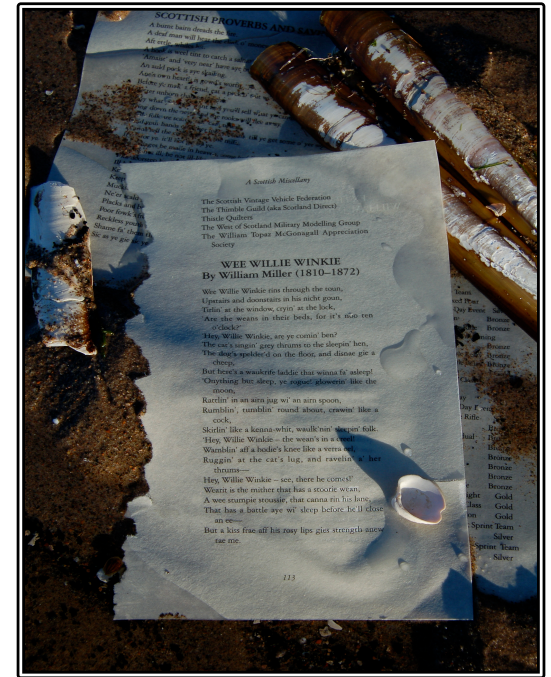
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LIBRARY UPSTAIRS

LIBRARY

Portobello Book Festival

6th – 8th October 2017



All events are free, but ticketed.

**Tickets in advance from
Portobello Library**

www.portobellobookfestival.wordpress.com

Twitter @partybookfest

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FRIDAY 6th OCTOBER

SPECIAL EVENTS

QUEEN'S BAY LODGE

In a first for the festival, storyteller **Bea Ferguson** shares stories, poems and songs with residents of Queen's Bay Lodge care home.

RESIDENTS ONLY

SCHOOLS

BRUNSTANE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Keith Brumpton, author and storyteller talks about how he has illustrated and written his many books and TV shows and shares his ideas on how pupils can use their imagination to have a go themselves.

ST JOHN'S R. C. PRIMARY SCHOOL

Alex Nye writes fiction for children, young adults and teens. Her mysteries are often inspired by historical events. Alex is keen to encourage creative writing with younger people and shares her ideas on how to get started.

TOWERBANK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Story time for younger children presented by Portobello Library staff.

*** SCHOOL EVENTS FOR PUPILS ONLY ***

12.00noon-1.30pm

LIBRARY UPSTAIRS

Authors **Archie Foley** and **Peter E Ross** introduce a selection of personal stories and reminiscences from their new book *Footprints in the Sand – local history from the Portobello Reporter*. The accounts of events, places and individuals reveal Portobello not just as a holiday resort but also as a community where people lived and worked. Readings by Archie and **Margaret Munro**. Local transport provided for those who need it. Contact Portobello Library for information.

8.00-10.30pm

LIBRARY

OPENING EVENT: SONG BOOKS

Join **David Francis** and a host of artistes for an evening of words and music inspired by books, and books inspired by music.

REFRESHMENTS

SATURDAY 7th OCTOBER

10.30am-12.30pm

PORTOBELLO BAPTIST CHURCH CAFÉ

WRITING WORKSHOP: WRITING FROM NATURE

Following the success of last year's workshop we take inspiration from what's around us to kick start and develop our creative writing. First time and seasoned writers all welcome. The workshop is led by two local writers, **M Louise Kelly** and **Sheila M Averbuch**.

11.00am-12.00noon

LIBRARY UPSTAIRS

FOOTBALL – STILL A GLORIOUS GAME?

Daniel Gray is the author of *Saturday, 3pm*, a collection of 50 short essays about football. They aim to remind readers that despite footballers' astronomical salaries, mad ticket prices, lunchtime kick-offs and the clamour for TV rights, football can still be a joy. *Saturday, 3pm* is a book of love letters to football which help you find the romance in the game all over again.

Chair: **Graham Boyack**

11.00am-12.30pm

PORTOBELLO BAPTIST CHURCH HALL

LOST EDINBURGH

Join **Fraser Parkinson** and **Jack Gillon** for a unique journey: a photographic tour from Edinburgh to Portobello via Leith. Jack and Fraser talk you through the highways and by-ways, as well as the many lost sights, people and buildings on the way to the sea. Audience members are encouraged to contribute their own memories and comments about the photographs as they progress along the route.

Chair: **Bill Jameson**

11.30am-12.00noon

LIBRARY

BOOKBUG returns to the Book Festival for fun, songs and rhymes.

12.15-1.45pm

LIBRARY UPSTAIRS

WRITERS-IN-RESIDENCE: WHAT THEY DO AND WHAT THEY LEARN

This session hears from three authors who have been employed as writers-in-residence about their experience and how it has influenced their own writing. **Doug Johnstone** was until recently writer-in-residence to William Purves Funeral Directors, **Thomas Clark** is currently undertaking a residency with Selkirk Football Club and **Janice Galloway** was the first Scottish Arts Council writer-in-residence to four Scottish prisons.

Chair: **Catherine Simpson**

12.45-2.15pm

PORTOBELLO BAPTIST CHURCH HALL

HISTORICAL FICTION THROUGH THE YEARS

Kaite Welsh is the author of *The Wages of Sin*, a mystery set in 1890s Edinburgh, which features a female medical student turned detective. **Jane Tulloch's** novels *Our Best Attention* and *Assured Attention* are set in Murrays, a large fictional department store in 1970s Edinburgh. Join them as they discuss researching and writing historical fiction set in very different eras.

Chair: **Viv Cree**

2.00-3.15pm

LIBRARY UPSTAIRS

BOOKS, BLOGS AND A BLETHER

Discover the world of female Scottish writers and bloggers. Debut novelists **Stella Hervey Birrell**, *How Many Wrongs Make a Mr Right*, and **Natalie Fergie**, *The Sewing Machine*, chat with **Joanne Baird**, of *Portobello Book Blog*, about debut novels, writing that tricky second novel, the highs and lows of blogging and everything in-between.

2.30-3.30pm

PORTOBELLO BAPTIST CHURCH HALL

MY WAY: A MUSLIM WOMAN'S JOURNEY

Mona Siddiqui OBE is one of the UK's leading commentators on religious affairs. Professor of Islamic and Interreligious Studies at the University of Edinburgh, she has written many books, including *Christians, Muslims and Jews* and *The Good Muslim*. In this session she discusses her personal journey of faith with **Helen Alexander**, Assistant Minister at St Giles' Cathedral.

3.30-4.45pm

LIBRARY UPSTAIRS

MOTHERS AND DAUGHTERS, FATHERS AND SONS

This anthology of work draws on the oral history tradition of minority ethnic communities to 'shine a light' on childhood. In a panel discussion, contributors to the book share their experiences of growing up in their country of origin whether overseas or here in Scotland.

Chair: **Suzanne Munday** of the Minority Ethnic Carers of People Project

3.45-5.15pm

PORTOBELLO BAPTIST CHURCH HALL

CHARACTER, HISTORY AND CULTURAL CHANGE

Three local authors explore past, present and possible future through the eyes of their characters. **Caroline Dunford**, *Euphemia Martins Mysteries*, **R L McKinney**, *The Angel in the Stone*, and **Lesley Kelly**, *The Health of Strangers*, discuss how social and political events affect their characters' lives, relationships and identities.

Chair: **Anne Gilchrist**

5.00-6.00pm

LIBRARY UPSTAIRS

SCOTTISH WOMEN'S INSTITUTE: EVOLVING.

One hundred years after its inception at Longniddry, the SWI is still dedicated to friendship, learning and skill sharing. Federation member **Jessica Munro** talks about the challenges and opportunities facing the organisation as it stands today and takes a glimpse inside the SWI's celebratory Centenary Cook Book.

Chair: **Linda Bradley**

5.30-6.30pm

LIBRARY

SCIENCE FICTION

Acclaimed science fiction writer **Ken MacLeod** reads from the latest of his seventeen novels, and discusses how science fiction engages with science and society.

Chair: **Grahame Howard**

8.00-10.00pm

BOOK QUIZ

DALRIADA

No ticket required/£1 entry