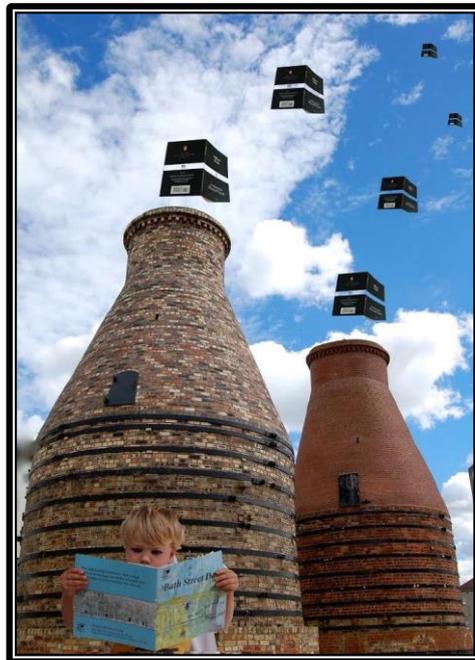


# Portobello Book Festival

7th – 9th October 2016



**All events are free, but ticketed. Many events are already fully booked but check with Portobello library for availability as sometimes tickets are returned.**

Tickets can only be collected from the library.

[www.portobellobookfestival.wordpress.com](http://www.portobellobookfestival.wordpress.com)

Twitter @portybookfest

## **FRIDAY 7th OCTOBER**

### **SCHOOL EVENTS**

**For pupils only**

#### **PORTOBELLO HIGH SCHOOL BOOK FESTIVAL**

Monday October 3rd - Friday October 7th

#### **BRUNSTANE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**Emily Dodd** invites pupils to sing, dance and act out the story of Can't-Dance-Cameron, a Capercaillie who learns to dance with the help of his friend Hazel the red squirrel.

#### **DUDDINGSTON PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**Lari Don** talks about being an author and encourages pupils to use their imagination to inspire their own writing.

#### **TOWERBANK PRIMARY SCHOOL**

##### **Sir Chris Hoy - Flying Fergus**

Fergus is an ordinary boy with an extraordinary imagination. All he wants for his ninth birthday is 'The Sullivan Swift', but all he gets is his dad's rusty old bike.

**Sir Chris Hoy** shares stories from his *Flying Fergus* series with Primary 4 pupils from Portobello primary schools.

**12.30-1.30pm**

**LIBRARY UPSTAIRS**

### **PORTOBELLO POTS AND PEOPLE**

Sharing memories of the Buchan Potteries. **Gavin May** gives an informal talk on this iconic Portobello industry.

55+ Local transport provided: contact Portobello Library for information.

**6.00-7.00pm**

**LIBRARY UPSTAIRS**

### **JOHN CURTICE**

John Curtice is Professor of Politics at Strathclyde University and President of the British Polling Council. Well known for his expert analysis, his many publications include *Has Devolution Worked?* He will discuss the significance of polls and the recent upheaval in our political landscape.

Chair: **Jane Meagher**

**8.00-10.30pm**

**LIBRARY**

### **OPENING EVENT - WE'RE A' JOCK TAMSON'S BAIRNS**

Join **David Francis** and a host of local writers for an evening of words, music and conviviality, with special guests **Liz Lochhead**, poet, playwright, translator and broadcaster, and **Patsy Seddon**, Scottish Harp player and singer extraordinaire.

\*\*\*REFRESHMENTS\*\*

## SATURDAY 8th OCTOBER

**10.30am-12.30pm**                      **PORTOBELLO BAPTIST CHURCH CAFÉ**

**WRITING WORKSHOP: REBECCA MCKINNEY**

**Crosscurrents: writing inspired by the sea**

What does the sea mean to you? Sunny holidays, storm surges, separation, connection? In this two-hour workshop, Rebecca, author of *Blast Radius*, will use the sights, sounds and smells of the sea to inspire creativity, awaken the senses and capture vibrant images. We will visit the Promenade so dress for all weathers and bring pen, paper and imagination. Writers of all levels welcome.

**11.00am-12.00 noon**

**LIBRARY UPSTAIRS**

**BRIDGES OVER THE FORTH**

**Michael Meighan** has written widely about the local and industrial history of Scotland. From his book *Forth Bridges Through Time* he talks about the history and heritage of the iconic bridges and other crossings that have spanned the river.

Chair: **Peter Ross**

**11.30am-12.00 noon**

**LIBRARY**

**BOOKBUG**

Bookbug returns to the Book Festival for a half hour of fun, songs and rhymes.

**12.15-1.15pm**

**LIBRARY**

**SPANISH BOOKBUG**

Bookbug goes international! Join **Sonia** for Spanish songs and rhymes.

**12.15-1.15pm**

**LIBRARY UPSTAIRS**

**FILMISH**

Portobello-based comic artist **Edward Ross**, recently back from success at Toronto Comic Arts Festival 2016, discusses his debut graphic novel *Filmish: A Graphic Journey Through Film*, an engaging look at the history of cinema and the fascinating stories behind our favourite films.

Chair: **Stephen Goodall**

**1.00-2.30pm**

**PORTOBELLO BAPTIST CHURCH CAFÉ**

**DANGEROUS WOMEN**

Novelists **Ajay Close** and **Catherine Hokin** talk about what inspired them to write about women who shaped history. Catherine explores the fascinating story of medieval Queen Margaret of Anjou in her debut novel *Blood and Roses*. Ajay's *A Petrol Scented Spring* follows the extraordinary exploits of Edinburgh suffragette Arabella Scott.

Chair: **Viv Cree**

**1.30-2.30pm**

**LIBRARY UPSTAIRS**

**AN OLD LADY TALKING THE BLUES**

**Isla Dewar** and **Catherine Simpson** discuss their adventures while writing, the catharsis they've experienced and problems they've encountered. They exchange views on favourite books, favourite bits of books, books they'd wish they'd written and books they'd like to write. Find out about their heroines, both living and on the page, and about the characters they admire, fear, love and hate.

**2.45-3.45pm**

**PORTOBELLO BAPTIST CHURCH CAFÉ**

**KNOW YOUR PLACE**

**Sean Bradley** is Chair of the Edinburgh Old Town Development Trust, publisher and editor of *The Evergreen: A New Season in the North*, a journal in four volumes based on polymath and urban planner Patrick Geddes's 19<sup>th</sup> century Evergreens. He will discuss the continuing relevance of Geddes's work in urban renewal.

Chair: **Bill Jameson**

**2.45-4.15pm**

**LIBRARY UPSTAIRS**

**MESSING WITH THE MIND**

**Mary Paulson-Ellis**, debut author of *The Other Mrs Walker*, joins **Graeme Macrae Burnet**, whose *His Bloody Project* has been long listed for the 2016 Man Booker Prize, to talk about what inspired them to write their novels. They'll discuss how they got into the mysterious minds of their characters and the appeal of psychological thrillers and the exploration of secrets, lies and deception.

Chair: **Graeme Howard**

**4.30-6.00pm**

**LIBRARY UPSTAIRS**

**NORTH EDINBURGH NOIR**

**Lesley Kelly**, *A Fine House in Trinity*, and **Alison Baillie**, *Sewing the Shadows Together*, talk about the joys and pitfalls of setting crime stories in places they know really well. Come along to find out what inspired them and what the reaction has been to the places their crime novels are set: Portobello, Leith and Trinity!

Chair: **Caroline Dunford**

**8.00-10.00pm**

**DALRIADA**

**BOOK QUIZ**

£1 entry per person

No ticket required

## SUNDAY 9th OCTOBER

**Please note some events on Sunday have been changed from the upstairs room to the main library and vice-versa.**

**11.00am-12.30pm**

**LIBRARY DOWNSTAIRS**

### **FAMILY SAGAS, FAMILY SECRETS**

Debut authors **Mairi Wilson**, *Ursula's Secret*, and **Shelley Day**, *The Confession of Stella Moon*, talk about their different approaches to creating vivid and exhilarating explorations of the impact of secrets which span generations in a family. They discuss what is said and what is left unsaid as mysteries are uncovered. The authors will be in conversation with **Anne Loughnane**, whose second novel, *A Clarewoman's Journey*, has been published recently.

**12.15-1.45pm**

**LIBRARY UPSTAIRS**

### **THE OSCAR OF MOUNTAINEERING**

*In Some Lost Place* by **Sandy Allan**, who hails from Newtonmore, is an exhilarating and harrowing account of his ascent with Rick Allen of one of the last great challenges of Himalayan mountaineering: Nanga Parbet's Mazeno Ridge. Both climbers were awarded the 2013 Piolet d'Or, the Oscar of mountaineering, for their unique achievement.

Chair: **Larry Foster**

**12.45-1.45pm**

**LIBRARY DOWNSTAIRS**

### **TSUNAMI: SCOTLAND'S DEMOCRATIC REVOLUTION**

Acclaimed political writer, **Iain Macwhirter**, examines the shifting political landscape in Scotland in the light of the events of the past couple of years. Where are we now and what does the future hold?

**2.00-3.00pm**

**LIBRARY DOWNSTAIRS**

### **THE LOCKERBIE BOMBING: THE SEARCH FOR JUSTICE**

**Kenny MacAskill** discusses his latest book which details his decision to release Abdelbaset al-Megrahi, the man convicted of the Lockerbie bombing, on compassionate grounds. He sets it in the context of the commercial and security interests that have overshadowed events in the decades both before and after.

Chair: **Alastair Cameron**

**3.15-4.15pm**

**LIBRARY DOWNSTAIRS**

### **MEET THE AUTHOR**

In **James Robertson's** latest novel *To Be Continued....*, Douglas Findhorn Elder is in a sorry state. He has just turned fifty, split up with his partner and jumped (before he was pushed) from his job at an ailing Edinburgh newspaper. On the night of his birthday, he

makes an unexpected new friend: a talking toad. When a new work opportunity takes the man from the city to the Highlands, the toad goes with him.....

Chair: **Jim Gilchrist**

**4.30-6.00pm**  
**PLAYING DIRTY**

**LIBRARY UPSTAIRS**

Competitive sports have recently come into international disrepute over accusations of doping, bullying and corruption. **Richard Moore**, journalist, author and former racing cyclist, **Alan Bissett**, novelist, playwright and Rangers fan, and **Maddie Breeze**, sociologist and author on women's roller derby, discuss the state of sport in the contemporary world.

Chair: **John Kelly**

**VENUES:**

**PORTOBELLO LIBRARY**  
14 Rosefield Avenue EH15 1AU

**PORTOBELLO BAPTIST CHURCH CAFE**  
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 5<sup>th</sup> September. Some tickets **may** be available at venues 15 minutes before events.

**PORTOBELLO BOOK FESTIVAL**

is organised by local enthusiasts and Portobello Library.  
If you have ideas or would like to be involved, please contact:  
[portobellobookfestival@gmail.com](mailto:portobellobookfestival@gmail.com)