

FOOD VILLAGE · BOOKSHOP · BAR · LIVE MUSIC · FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT

BordersBook Festival

where words
come alive!

15-18 JUNE / 2023

HARMONY GARDEN · MELROSE · SCOTTISH BORDERS

INCLUDING
BAILLIE GIFFORD
CHILDREN'S PROGRAMME



CELEBRATING 20 YEARS!

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EVENT INFORMATION

Events are one hour long unless specified. Seating is unreserved.

Latecomers: Events start punctually. Members of the audience might not be admitted after the beginning of events.

Programme details are correct at time of going to press. Borders Book Festival reserves the right to alter or cancel events. Tickets are non-refundable unless an event is cancelled. Please check the festival website www.bordersbookfestival.org for the latest news, special events and information.

Visitors with additional needs: For more details about access at the festival see page 8.

Dogs are permitted in the Orchard and Harmony Garden, if well behaved and kept on leads at all times. Please note that dogs are NOT permitted in the fruit and vegetable garden within Harmony Garden. This area will be clearly marked. Please clean up and dispose of any fouling in the general waste bins located next to the toilets.

Assistance dogs ONLY will be admitted to event venues.

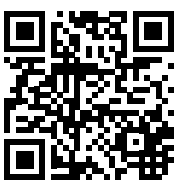
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SPECIAL THANKS TO

Honorary Patrons: Catherine Hamilton, Rory Bremner, James Naughtie, Eleanor Updale

Patrons: The Duke and Duchess of Buccleuch, The de Gier Family, The Blackport Family, Fiona & Ian Russell

Supporters: Sue & Rob Moffat, James Barton, Ann & Maurice White



COVER ILLUSTRATION

Illustrator and calligrapher Jill Calder has been commissioned to bring a refreshing new look to celebrate the festival's 20th year. Look out for her work in our programme, on posters, across our social media channels and various branded materials. Visit www.jillcalder.com to see more of her amazing work.

FESTIVAL SITE MAP



HARMONY GARDEN

- A Baillie Gifford Marquee
- B Cullen Kilshaw Marquee
- C CSY Architects Marquee
- D Bookshop
- E Harmony Bar
- △ Luckie Beans Coffee
- △ With a Cherry on Top Ice Cream

THE ORCHARD

- F BSW Group Marquee
- G Davidson Chalmers Stewart Storytelling Tent
- H Orchard Bar
- ▲ Abbotsford Teepee
- ▲ Information Stands

Food Village includes:

- △ Alandas Seafood
- △ With a Cherry on Top
- △ Luckie Beans Coffee
- △ Greek Street Food
- △ Pizza Geeks

ST MARY'S ROAD

- Heartlands Market (Sat and Sun only)

PARKING: Visitors are advised to park in Melrose town centre where the parking is in easy reach of the festival venues. There is also very limited parking for festivalgoers at the edge of the rugby pitch at Annay Road. This parking is weather dependent.

Although we do have some limited, disabled parking for Blue Badge holders only, we highly recommend using the drop-off point on Annay Road, where assistance from a member of the book festival team will be available. Restrictions will be in place on St Mary's Road from Mon 12 June to Mon 19 June and a diversion route from Abbey Street to Newstead will be in operation.

BOOKING INFORMATION

Tickets are available online, by phone and in person.

ONLINE:
www.bordersbookfestival.org

PHONE:
Citizen Ticket: 0131 290 2112

Phone lines open: Monday - Friday, 10.00am - 5.00pm
 This is a call back service. To book tickets, or for general enquiries, please leave a message with your name and number.

IN PERSON:

There will be a box office on site during the festival (15 - 18 June): Harmony Garden, St Mary's Road, Melrose, Scottish Borders, TD6 9LJ

Concession tickets (C), where applicable, are available to students, registered disabled (plus one carer/companion), registered unemployed, under 16s and Young Scot cardholders. Proof of entitlement will be required.

Free companion tickets are available for those who need a support person or aide to attend events – see details on page 8.

Covid-safe and environmentally responsible ticketing: We take the health and wellbeing of our audience, guests, volunteers and staff seriously, and have taken steps to keep everyone safe. This includes operating a paperless ticketing system, which brings the additional benefit of helping to reduce the festival's environmental impact. By working with ticketing partners Citizen Ticket, we go one step further; for every ticket purchased, 5p will go towards planting a tree right here in the UK.

For more details: www.citizenticket.co.uk/trees/



WELCOME TO THE BORDERS BOOK FESTIVAL 2023



Welcome back to Melrose, to the 20th Borders Book Festival! What better way to celebrate a big birthday than with another amazing programme of events?

We have literary highlights aplenty, not least the Booker Prize winner Douglas Stuart, the Walter Scott Prize

contenders and a slew of other wonderful writers including Val McDermid, Anne Glenconner and Helena Kennedy. Not forgetting the posse who make up the Fun Lovin' Crime Writers band.

We pride ourselves on the big names who enrich our cultural get-together year after year. And there are plenty more in 2023. We celebrate Adam Smith's tercentenary and his lasting impact on philosophy, politics and economics, with contributions from Philippe Sands and Richard Holloway.

A more recent focus on public policy comes from Kate Bingham's reflections on the transformational impact of the COVID vaccines, while Professor John Curtice and Andy Burnham will bring us bang up to date with their wider political insights.

Alter egos have a special place in our festival weekend and this year we are delighted to welcome back Mabel, Olive and Monkey, ably assisted by

Andrew Cotter on the one hand and Nina Conti (kind of literally) on the other. And we look forward also to seeing which characters join Jon Culshaw and Rory Bremner to share their limelight.

Elsewhere we offer a riot of the imagination in the children's programme, which features former Children's Laureate Lauren Child and Horrible Histories' illustrator Martin Brown.

To complete the mix, there's sporting interest with Martin O'Neill, Judy Murray and Pat Nevin.

All of this and more. Brought to you in the splendid surroundings of Harmony Garden, thanks to the support of the National Trust for Scotland, this splendid collection of events is curated by our wonderful creative directors Alistair Moffat and Paula Ogilvie.

And none of it happens without the generosity of Principal Sponsor, **Baillie Gifford**, plus our other sponsors and key funders who include **Scottish Borders Council**, **Creative Scotland** and **EventScotland**.

Thanks, too, to our media partners at **FT Weekend**, the **Border Telegraph** and the **Peeblesshire News**. But most of all, thanks for your support – we hope you enjoy the shows!

Michael Moore
Chairman, Borders Book Festival

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS, FUNDERS, SUPPORTERS & PARTNERS

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Thanks also to: Advanced Signs Systems, The Border Studio, Borders Carers Voice, Dr David Summers Charitable Trust, Dynamite Initiatives, Fauhope Country House, The Gannochy Trust, Health in Mind, Live Borders, The Mainstreet Trading Company, Lloyd Smith Photography & Video, St Mary's School, Stonehill Salt PR, Super Power Agency, The Turtleton Charitable Trust, The William Syson Foundation and all our wonderful festival volunteers.

ALL THE FUN OF THE FESTIVAL

Join us for a memorable weekend, with more than 100 events for all ages.



GETTING TO THE FESTIVAL

Travelling by Car

Melrose is easily accessible by car and is less than five minutes' drive from the main A68 and A7 trunk roads. For how to find us and parking information see page 3.

Taking the Train or Bus

The journey by train takes less than one hour from Edinburgh to Tweedbank Station - a handy 1.5 miles from the festival site.

If you fancy a nice 20-minute stroll to Harmony from the train, just follow the book festival signs to Melrose, but, if you'd rather catch a bus, they run regularly between Tweedbank and Melrose.

There are regular trains from Edinburgh Waverley (every 30 minutes at peak times), and you'll find a link to the ScotRail and Borders Buses timetables in the 'Getting to Melrose' section in the 'About' tab on www.bordersbookfestival.org

Event Times

This year, to help you have a more relaxed experience at the festival, we have increased the time between most adult events to 45mins. In addition, wherever possible, we have streamlined the start times to maximise your booking choices.

Harmony Garden Festival Bookshop

There's lots of space for browsing, buying and book signings and in the corner kids' area, children can sit and read. The bookshop's opening hours are 3.30pm on Thursday and Friday, 9.00am on Saturday and 11.00am on Sunday, closing late every day - plenty of time for shopping!

We run our own bookshop and all proceeds go directly back to the festival.

Entry to Harmony Garden & Orchard is FREE!

Media

You might just come across a TV camera or a large microphone if you are attending the festival, so make sure you're camera ready - you might end up on the news!

Recording of Events

A selection of the events taking place at Harmony Garden will be available to view later on demand. More details can be found on our website and by signing up to our mailing list for regular updates.

Bringing the kids?

The Baillie Gifford Children's Programme offers a wonderful selection of events for children of all ages with some of today's best loved authors. There are also storytelling sessions for those with additional needs and lots of free activities to enjoy. See the full list of family events on pages 41 - 47.

Photography & Video

The book festival employs a roving photographer and cameraman who will be taking photos and videos of events and visitors for promotional use.

THE ORCHARD

Food & Drink

Come into The Orchard for some of the finest food and drink from across the Borders and Scotland. In a giant stretch tent, **Sips Events** will keep the good cheer flowing with their finest beers, wines and craft gins.

This year's offerings for foodies include our festival favourites, **Alandas Scottish Sea Food**, **Greek Street Food** with their irresistible chicken gyros, halloumi gyros and seasoned fries, as well as **Pizza Geeks** with their tempting wood-fired pizza.

And don't forget to try the mouth-watering selection of cakes, crepes, ice creams and sorbets served by **With a Cherry on Top**.

You can also enjoy great artisan coffees from **Luckie Beans** in The Orchard and Harmony Garden.



You can find a full list and details on all our fantastic food and drink suppliers on our website.

www.bordersbookfestival.org



The
**HEARTLAND
MARKET**

We are delighted to be hosting **The Heartland Market** over Saturday and Sunday at this year's festival. The market was established by three passionate women to celebrate the artisan makers and shakers of Galashiels and the surrounding area. Their aim is to bring the heart back into the local community and to offer shoppers a unique experience, buying from local creative artisan producers. With something for everyone, you will most certainly find a distinct offering!

www.theheartlandmarket.uk

ACCESSIBILITY INFORMATION



Sound enhancement in venues

We have got hearing loop systems in our three largest venues: Baillie Gifford Marquee, Cullen Kilshaw Marquee and BSW Group Marquee. Simply set your hearing aid to 'T' for access.

Wheelchair access

All venues have wheelchair access. There is also extensive tracking across the festival site to ensure access is as smooth and level as possible.

Seating requests

If you have a wheelchair or you need to sit in a specific area (aisle, etc) please email info@bordersbookfestival.org with details of your requirements and the events which you're attending at least two days before your event. Due to space and demand we cannot also reserve seats for others in your group – we want to ensure the most accessible seats are available for those who need them.

Companion tickets

If you need a support person or aide to attend events they are entitled to a free companion ticket. These tickets should be booked at the same as you purchase your own tickets.

BSL interpreted events

A selection of events will be scheduled with a BSL interpreter. Look for the tag under each event in the programme or online.

Toilets

We have toilets for everyone, including both gender neutral and wheelchair accessible toilets.

Assistance dogs

Assistance dogs are welcome. Please let us know by emailing info@bordersbookfestival.org at least two days before your event so we can make sure you are seated somewhere suitable.

Hidden Disabilities Sunflower

Wearing the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower lanyard discreetly indicates to our trained staff that you may need additional support or help as you navigate the festival site and attend events. Lanyards are available at the box office.

Accessible parking

Although we do have some limited, disabled parking for Blue Badge holders only, we highly recommend using the drop off point on Annay Road, where assistance from a member of the festival team will be available.

Mobility scooters

A small number of mobility scooters will be available to borrow on a first come first served basis. The collection point is located next to the box office. If you wish to book these in advance, please email info@bordersbookfestival.org with details of your requirements at least two days before your planned visit.

FESTIVAL AT A GLANCE

www.bordersbookfestival.org

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HARMONY GARDEN · MELROSE · SCOTTISH BORDERS

THURSDAY 15 JUNE

Time	Event	Location	Page
5.30pm	The Walter Scott Prize for Historical Fiction	Cullen Kilshaw Marquee	13
5.30pm	The Crisis of Democratic Capitalism and How to Fix It	BSW Group Marquee	14
5.30pm	Victoria Bennett: All My Wild Mothers	CSY Architects Marquee	14
7.15pm	John Curtice	Baillie Gifford Marquee	14
7.15pm	Philippe Sands	Cullen Kilshaw Marquee	15
7.15pm	Barry Cunliffe	CSY Architects Marquee	15
7.15pm	Sebastian Barry	BSW Group Marquee	16
7.15pm	Oli Broom: Slow Cycling in the Borders	Davidson Chalmers Stewart Storytelling Tent	16
9.00pm	Nina Conti	Baillie Gifford Marquee	16
9.00pm	Mensun Bound: The Ship Beneath the Ice	Cullen Kilshaw Marquee	17
9.00pm	Chris Mullin	BSW Group Marquee	17
9.00pm	An Evening of Music with Lach & Martin Metcalfe	CSY Architects Marquee	17

FRIDAY 16 JUNE

10.30am - 2.00pm	Bowhill Walter Scott Prize Colloquium	Bowhill House, Selkirk	18
5.30pm	Judy Murray	Baillie Gifford Marquee	18
5.30pm	Martin O'Neill	Cullen Kilshaw Marquee	19
5.30pm	Graeme Macrae Burnet	BSW Group Marquee	19
5.30pm	Neil Francis	CSY Architects Marquee	19
5.30pm	Borders Writers' Forum	Davidson Chalmers Stewart Storytelling Tent	20
7.15pm	Douglas Stuart	Baillie Gifford Marquee	20
7.15pm	Richard Holloway	Cullen Kilshaw Marquee	21
7.15pm	Mollie Hughes: Exploring Scotland's Wild Waters	BSW Group Marquee	21
7.15pm	Women of Whisky	CSY Architects Marquee	22
9.00pm	Robert Harris	Baillie Gifford Marquee	22
9.00pm	Robin Ince: Bibliomaniac	Cullen Kilshaw Marquee	23
9.00pm	The Hot Club of Halifax	BSW Group Marquee	23
9.00pm	Doug Johnstone	CSY Architects Marquee	23

SATURDAY 17 JUNE

Time	Event	Location	Page
9.45am	Robots and Dinosaurs	BSW Group Marquee	42
9.45am - 10.10am	Bookbug Rhyme Session	CSY Architects Marquee	42
9.45am - 11.00am	Storytelling the Super Power Agency Way!	Davidson Chalmers Stewart Storytelling Tent	42
10.00am - 3.45pm	Fairy Magic with Abbotsford	Abbotsford Teepee	42
10.20am - 10.45am	Bookbug Rhyme Session	CSY Architects Marquee	42
11.15am	Horrible Histories with Martin Brown	BSW Group Marquee	43
11.15am	Vivian French: Maps	CSY Architects Marquee	43
11.45am	Lego Club - drop in session	Davidson Chalmers Stewart Storytelling Tent	43
12.15pm	Mixed Form Yoga & Breathwork	Baillie Gifford Marquee	24
12.15pm	James Naughtie: The Spy Across the Water	Cullen Kilshaw Marquee	24
12.45pm	Anne & Steve Brusatte: Scotland's Dinosaurs	BSW Group Marquee	43
12.45pm	Tolá Okogwu	CSY Architects Marquee	44
1.15pm - 1.45pm	Storytime	Davidson Chalmers Stewart Storytelling Tent	44
2.00pm	Anne Glenconner	Baillie Gifford Marquee	25
2.00pm	Kate Bingham & Tim Hames: The McInroy & Wood Lecture	Cullen Kilshaw Marquee	25
2.15pm	Kjartan Poskitt: The Runaway Pea	BSW Group Marquee	44
2.15pm	Martin Brown: Nell and the Cave Bear	CSY Architects Marquee	44
2.15pm	Joan Haig: Tigers are Magic	Davidson Chalmers Stewart Storytelling Tent	44
3.45pm	Rory meets...Shaparak Khorsandi	Baillie Gifford Marquee	26
3.45pm	Archie Macpherson	Cullen Kilshaw Marquee	26
3.45pm	Ambrose Parry: Voices of the Dead	BSW Group Marquee	27
3.45pm	Dr Emma Hepburn	CSY Architects Marquee	27
5.30pm	Andrew Cotter	Baillie Gifford Marquee	28
5.30pm	Helena Kennedy	Cullen Kilshaw Marquee	28
5.30pm	Hew Strachan	BSW Group Marquee	29
5.30pm	Jesse Norman	CSY Architects Marquee	29
7.15pm	Andy Burnham	Baillie Gifford Marquee	29
7.15pm	Rory meets...Theo Fennell	Cullen Kilshaw Marquee	30
7.15pm	Paterson Joseph	BSW Group Marquee	30
7.15pm	Stuart Neville & Luca Veste	CSY Architects Marquee	30
9.00pm	Rory meets...Jon Culshaw	Baillie Gifford Marquee	31
9.00pm	Mark Billingham	Cullen Kilshaw Marquee	31
9.00pm	Colin MacIntyre (aka Mull Historical Society)	BSW Group Marquee	32
9.00pm	Mairi Kidd: We Are All Witches	CSY Architects Marquee	32

SUNDAY 18 JUNE

Time	Event	Location	Page
12.00pm	Breath & Organic Soundscape Bath	Baillie Gifford Marquee	33
12.00pm	What They Don't Teach You About Money	Cullen Kilshaw Marquee	33
12.00pm	Kjartan Poskitt: Murderous Maths	BSW Group Marquee	45
12.00pm	Jonathan Meres: Noodle the Doodle Wins the Day	CSY Architects Marquee	45
12.00pm	Shake it up Tales: Sensory Stories and Crafts	Davidson Chalmers Stewart Storytelling Tent	45
12.00pm - 4.30pm	Fairy Magic with Abbotsford	Abbotsford Teepee	46
1.45pm	James Naughtie	Baillie Gifford Marquee	33
1.45pm	Sally Magnusson	Cullen Kilshaw Marquee	34
1.45pm	Lauren Child	BSW Group Marquee	46
1.45pm	Lizzy Duncan: Scotty Plants a Seed	CSY Architects Marquee	46
1.45pm	Vivian French: The Wizards' Banquet	Davidson Chalmers Stewart Storytelling Tent	46
3.30pm	Gordon Brown	Baillie Gifford Marquee	34
3.30pm	The Lost King: The Search for Richard III	Cullen Kilshaw Marquee	35
3.30pm	Peter's Baking Party	BSW Group Marquee	47
3.30pm	Secrets, Seaweed and Scoundrels with Justin Davies	Davidson Chalmers Stewart Storytelling Tent	47
3.30pm	Bruna De Luca: I'm Not Cute, I'm Dangerous	CSY Architects Marquee	47
5.15pm	Val McDermid	Baillie Gifford Marquee	35
5.15pm	Alistair Moffat	Cullen Kilshaw Marquee	36
5.15pm	Anna Murphy	BSW Group Marquee	36
5.15pm	Chris Brookmyre & Jenny Colgan	CSY Architects Marquee	36
5.15pm	Angie Spoto: The Grief Nurse	Davidson Chalmers Stewart Storytelling Tent	37
7.00pm	Bake Off's Giuseppe Dell'Anno, Peter Sawkins & Rahul Mandal	Baillie Gifford Marquee	37
7.00pm	Pat Nevin	Cullen Kilshaw Marquee	38
7.00pm	Malcolm MacGregor: The Namib	CSY Architects Marquee	38
8.30pm	Arlene Phillips	Baillie Gifford Marquee	39
8.30pm	Peter Taylor: Operation Chiffon	Cullen Kilshaw Marquee	39
8.30pm	Fun Lovin' Crime Writers	BSW Group Marquee	40
8.30pm	Mara Menzies	CSY Architects Marquee	40

BAILLIE GIFFORD CHILDREN'S PROGRAMME EVENTS

BOOK ONLINE: www.bordersbookfestival.org
PHONE: Citizen Ticket 0131 290 2112

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BordersBook Festival

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Support the Festival

This year marks our 20th Borders Book Festival – and we can't wait to welcome you to glorious Harmony Garden to celebrate with a packed weekend of amazing events.

Please help us to continue to deliver the festival in future years by making a donation, however big or small. Borders Book Festival is a charity, and every penny donated will go towards helping us to build a sense of community, and to create unforgettable experiences that will stay with us long after the event is over.

Thank you so much, and we hope you enjoy the festival!



HOW TO DONATE

You can donate through our website www.bordersbookfestival.org. Details can be found at the bottom of each page. Alternatively, you can add a donation when you purchase a ticket through our box office.

WWW.BORDERSBOOKFESTIVAL.ORG    

THURSDAY 15 JUNE

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2023

THE WALTER SCOTT PRIZE FOR HISTORICAL FICTION



SHORTLISTED AUTHORS



Lucy Caldwell Adrian Duncan Robert Harris Elizabeth Lowry Fiona McFarlane Simon Mawer Devika Ponnambalam

The Walter Scott Prize for Historical Fiction

Cullen Kilshaw Marquee | 5.30pm | £6

Opening the festival with a literary fanfare is the £25,000 Walter Scott Prize, the winner of which is announced live on stage by the Duke of Buccleuch in a thrilling hour of suspense and time travel. Seven distinguished authors converge in the Borders from across the world to see their superb historical novels celebrated and to learn who takes this year's title. Take your ringside seat and come with us to Australia, Tahiti, Crimea and Massachusetts, via rural Ireland, Dorset and Belfast! Don't miss this world class gathering of literary talent.



THURS 15 JUNE

The Crisis of Democratic Capitalism and How to Fix It

BSW Group Marquee
5.30pm | £12, £10

FT chief economics commentator Martin Wolf explains why the relationship between democracy and capitalism is coming undone, a victim of failings in economic and political policy making. One of the world's most influential financial journalists, Wolf has charted capitalism's ups and downs for decades. That system, he argues, now faces the toughest of tests. Drawing on his experiences, professional as well as personal, and years of research, Wolf offers a defining account of how we got to the present crisis - and what needs to be done to save the marriage of liberal economics and democratic governance which has brought immense benefits to the world.



Victoria Bennett: All My Wild Mothers

CSY Architects Marquee | 5.30pm | £8, £6



In this inspiring and spellbinding weaving of memoir and herbal folklore, *All My Wild Mothers* is a story of rewinding our wastelands and the transformation that can happen when we do. At seven months pregnant, Victoria Bennett received the heartbreaking news that her eldest sister had died in a canoeing accident. Five years later, along with her young son who had health problems, she set about transforming the rubble around their home into a wild apothecary garden. This is the story of how sometimes life grows, not in spite of what is broken, but because of it.



John Curtice

Baillie Gifford Marquee | 7.15pm | £16, £14

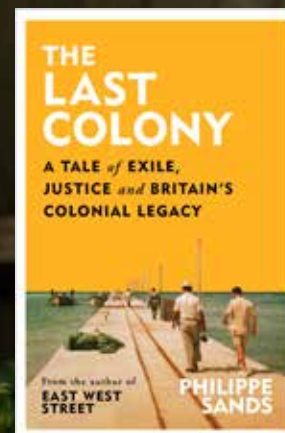
A household name and a well-known voice that has illuminated British and Scottish politics with his brilliant insights, Sir John comes to Melrose to look back on the remarkable shifts of the last twenty years. Polling plus surveys of political and social attitudes make up a formidable armoury of research. Dispassionate and objective, Sir John offers a uniquely well-informed analysis of trends. Ever-present at general elections, he accurately predicted the results in 2005, 2010, 2015 and 2017. Can he offer thoughts as to the future direction of our politics? In an event unique to the Borders Book Festival, we will find out.

ADAM SMITH TERCENTENARY EVENT

Philippe Sands

Cullen Kilshaw Marquee | 7.15pm | £14, £12

Winner of the Baillie Gifford Prize for Non-Fiction, Philippe has written a fascinating new book. *The Last Colony* is the story of the Chagos Archipelago in the Indian Ocean. In the 1960s Britain offered the USA a base there and deported the entire population. One of the displaced inhabitants was Liseby Elyse and Philippe gives a brilliant account of her struggle for justice in the book which is a fascinating, gripping and powerful piece of writing. In the context of the tercentenary of the birth of Adam Smith, Philippe will also discuss international law and the fundamental concepts on which it is based. Chaired by Chris Mullin.



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Barry Cunliffe

CSY Architects Marquee | 7.15pm | £12, £10



Britain's greatest archaeologist returns to Melrose to talk about his beautiful and scholarly new book *Bretons & Britons*. It is an account of a love affair with Brittany as well as a fascinating history since the time of the first farmers in the 6th millennium BC. Wonderfully well illustrated, it also talks of the relationship that Bretons have with their British neighbours to the north. Brittany after all derives from 'Little Britain'. Sir Barry will also look back at some landmarks in a uniquely illustrious career, which include his work on the Ancient Celts and Druids, his magisterial book *Facing the Ocean*, the story of the Atlantic communities from the Iberian Peninsula up to Ireland and the west of Britain, as well as *The Extraordinary Voyage of Pytheas the Greek*, perhaps the first explorer to visit Scotland.

Ian R Cartwright Oxford University

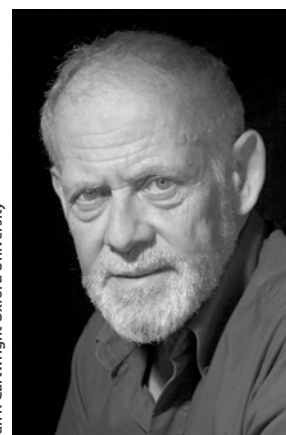


Image: Antonio Olmos

THURS 15 JUNE

Sebastian Barry

BSW Group Marquee | 7.15pm | £12, £10

Twice winner of the Walter Scott Prize, Sebastian returns with his new novel, *Old God's Time*. Set in the east of Ireland, it looks back on the life of retired policeman, Tom Kettle, as he settles into the quiet of a new home. But when two former colleagues turn up with questions about an old case, one that had troubled Tom, he finds himself pulled back into the darkness of the past. A fluent, beautifully made novel, lit by wonderful writing, *Old God's Time* is about what we live through, what we live with and what, of us, might survive.

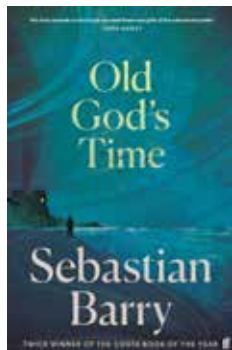


Image: The Irish Times

Oli Broom: Slow Cycling in the Borders

Davidson Chalmers
Stewart Storytelling Tent
7.15pm | £8, £6



Since 2014 Oli Broom has been taking parties of cyclists to the less visited corners of Britain and Europe. These magical tours all began with a marathon. In 2009 Oli quit his desk job in London and cycled alone for 28,000 kilometres over 14 months to Australia to watch the Ashes cricket series. His book *Cycling to the Ashes: A Cricketing Odyssey from London to Brisbane* was published to great acclaim in 2013. As the original Slow Cyclist, Oli has since then made many journeys - and his latest odyssey brings him to the Borders.



Image: Claes Gellerbrink

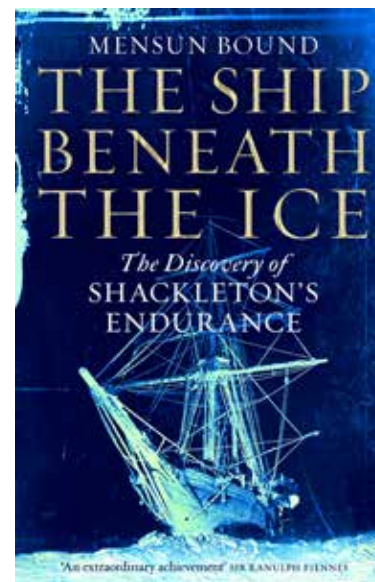
Sponsored by Knight Frank



Nina Conti

Baillie Gifford Marquee | 9.00pm | £20

Hooray! Nina is back with us. On the opening night of the festival, she and Monkey - and members of the audience when they find themselves on stage - will make the marquee rock with laughter. Every one of Nina's shows is different, but all are utterly brilliant, inventive and sometimes - no, every time - eye-popping. She and Monkey come to Melrose from a sell-out American tour and from directing her first feature film. Nina has been hailed as a comedy genius, and we are delighted to welcome her back.



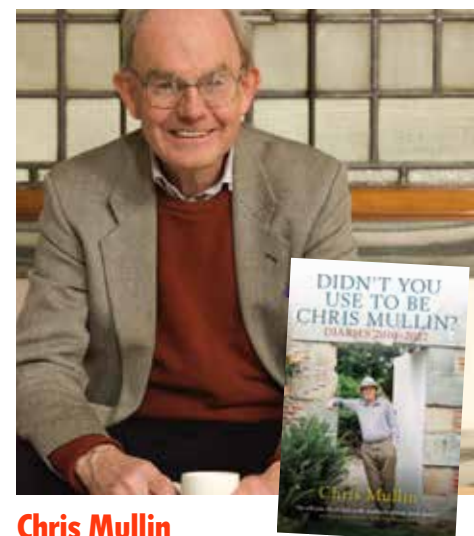
Mensun Bound: The Ship Beneath the Ice

Cullen Kilshaw Marquee
9.00pm | £14, £12

On 21st November 1915, the *Endurance*, Ernest Shackleton's ship, finally succumbed to the immense pressures of the Antarctic ice. Its crew watched in silence as the stern rose twenty feet in the air, and then, in a moment, their ship was gone. Mensun Bound was Director of Exploration for two dramatic expeditions to find the *Endurance*

in what Shackleton called the 'most hostile sea on Earth'. Mensun saw failure and despair and at times his own ship was almost caught in the frozen ice. This is a brilliant, thrilling piece of storytelling.

Sponsored by
Baillie Gifford



Chris Mullin

BSW Group Marquee | 9.00pm | £12, £10

Didn't You Use to Be Chris Mullin? is the latest volume from this brilliant diarist. It charts the remarkable period of tumultuous years from 2010 to 2013: the fall of new Labour; the long years of austerity politics; the highs and lows of Brexit; the rise and fall of Jeremy Corbyn and no fewer than four Tory prime ministers. The new diaries end with the death of the Queen. Wise, witty and deeply perceptive, from the arcadia of his walled garden, Chris Mullin paints a vivid portrait of our recent political history.

An Evening of Music with Lach & Martin Metcalfe

CSY Architects Marquee | 9.00pm | £12, £10

New York-born founder of the Antifolk movement and the man who has inspired the likes of Regina Spektor, Suzanne Vega and The Moldy Peaches, Lach (pronounced 'Latch'), whose debut novel *Langdimania* was released this year, will be joined by Scottish singer-songwriter Martin Metcalfe, of Goodbye Mr Mackenzie, Angelfish and The Filthy Tongues, who has occupied a unique place in Scottish alternative rock in various manifestations since the late 1980s. Enjoy an evening of acoustic music as the pair get together in this rare set especially for Borders Book Festival.





THE WALTER
SCOTT PRIZE
FOR HISTORICAL
FICTION



Bowhill Walter Scott Prize Colloquium

Bowhill House, Selkirk TD7 5ET
10.30am - 2.00pm | £35

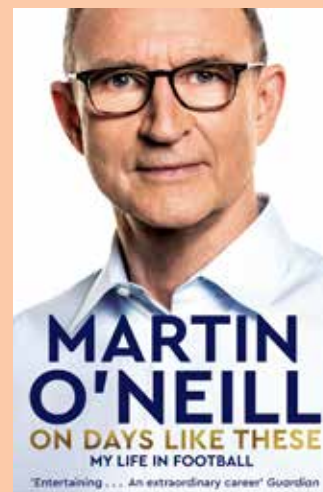
A chance to dive deeper into the seven novels shortlisted for the 2023 Walter Scott Prize in a discussion with their authors led by Chair of the Judging Panel, Katie Grant. A second session will look at future directions for historical fiction and the morning will close with a talk about the Manuscript of the First Canto of Scott's *Lay of the Last Minstrel* which has recently come home to the Borders.

Ticket includes coffee and buffet lunch.

Judy Murray

Baillie Gifford Marquee
5.30pm | £16, £14

Already hailed as a national tennis champion and coach in her own right, a champion of women in sport, mother of Jamie and Andy, Judy now reveals a completely new talent. *The Wild Card* is her first novel. It's a compelling story about second chances, about how it's never too late to follow a dream. Years after 38-year-old Abigail Patterson had put her promising tennis career on hold, she was unexpectedly given a wild card entry to Wimbledon. And she started winning! But Abigail also knew that it would be only a matter of time before the press would uncover the secret she'd kept hidden for so long... Absolutely authentic, gripping – and uplifting.



Martin O'Neill

Cullen Kilshaw Marquee
5.30pm | £14, £12

Join former Celtic and Republic of Ireland manager Martin O'Neill in conversation with James Lamont, FT board director and former managing editor, on rivalry, motivation and what it takes to win.

In his autobiography *On Days Like These* O'Neill, who led Celtic to legendary success, draws on five decades of football experience in Northern Ireland, England and Scotland.

What then are the leadership lessons from his career as a manager and what mentorship tips can he share with young players and coaches in the game today?



Graeme Macrae Burnet

BSW Group Marquee
5.30pm | £12, £10

Longlisted for the Booker prize in 2022, Graeme's latest novel *Case Study* is a dazzling, addictive and wholly original story. Set in London in the 1960s, it tells the story of a young woman who believes that a charismatic psychotherapist has driven her sister to suicide. Intent on discovering the truth, she poses as a client, recording what happens in a series of notebooks. But soon she is drawn into a world where she can no longer be certain of anything. The Spectator critic wrote that it was 'compelling... I was hooked like a fish.' Graeme's novel of 2016 *His Bloody Project* was shortlisted for the Booker Prize.

Neil Francis

CSY Architects Marquee
5.30pm | £8, £6

The Creative Thinking Book is what it says on the cover. It is designed to help readers understand what creativity is and how to remove the inhibitors – its barriers. With all the economic, health and social challenges so many people are currently facing, Neil suggests new ways to show the importance of creativity in overcoming them. Everyone can be creative, he argues, and this optimistic and fascinating book shows how to break through and let the juices flow.

Sponsored by Baillie Gifford



FRI 16 JUNE



Borders Writers' Forum

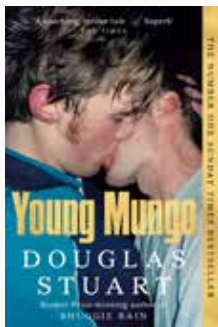
Davidson Chalmers Stewart Storytelling Tent | 5.30pm | £6

'Who am I and how did I get here?' Prepare to be taken through time and space, back to past lives, childhood and more recent memories. Poignant questions query the nature of memory. The Borders Writers' Forum authors will perform a diverse collection of poetry and prose, exploring fascinating and heartfelt moments. Also, be inspired to write your own snapshots of life or unique memories. This anthology will be for sale at the event and in the festival bookshop.

www.borderswritersforum.org.uk

Douglas Stuart

Baillie Gifford Marquee
7.15pm | £16, £14



Douglas Stuart took the book world by storm with his Booker winning modern classic *Shuggie Bain* and has now penned another emotionally powerful and compassionate novel. *Young Mungo* is a vivid

portrayal of working-class life and the deeply moving story of the dangerous first love of two young men: Mungo and James. Born under different stars, Protestant Mungo and Catholic James live in the hyper-masculine and violently sectarian world of Glasgow's housing estates in the early 1990s. Both tender and brutal, this is a gripping and revealing story about the bounds of masculinity, the push and pull of family, the violence faced by so many queer people, and the dangers of loving someone too much. In conversation with Kirsty Wark.

image: Clive Smith



ADAM SMITH TERCENTENARY EVENT

Richard Holloway

Cullen Kilshaw Marquee
7.15pm | £14, £12

As part of our celebration of the tercentenary of the birth of Adam Smith, Richard will talk about *The Theory of Moral Sentiments*. With the political and economic focus on Smith's other great work *An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations*, his second pioneering book is often ignored. But it may be more relevant to the 21st century. The acclaimed author and former Bishop of Edinburgh will bring the experiences of a remarkable life to bear on Smith's thinking and perhaps find a modern context for it.

Sponsored by
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SCOTTISH
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INVESTMENT TRUST



Mollie Hughes: Exploring Scotland's Wild Waters

BSW Group Marquee
7.15pm | £12, £10

This is a beautifully made, bright, sunny, inspiring, amusing and life-enhancing book. Mollie Hughes explores Scotland's wild waters - swimming, paddle-boarding, kayaking and making a splash. Much enhanced by Rachel Keenan's superb photographs, Mollie's tour around eighty

salt and freshwater locations is exhilarating. With its rugged coastlines, pristine beaches and glistening lochs, the whole country is an unreported mecca for wild water sports. Mollie is a world record-breaking sports adventurer and a brilliant communicator. Even if you are unlikely ever to pull on a

wet suit and paddle a paddleboard, this book will light up your day.

Sponsored by
Baillie Gifford



FRI 16 JUNE

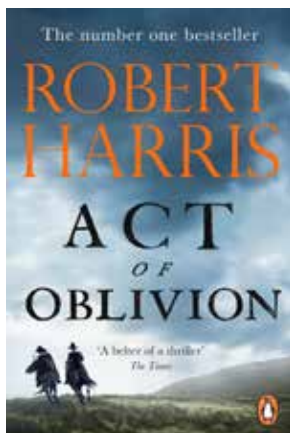
Women of Whisky

CSY Architects Marquee
7.15pm | £15

This whisky tasting will walk you through the evolution of what it takes to make, market and drink a dram in 2023. The whiskies have been chosen by three women immersed in the industry: Becky Paskin, whisky writer and founder of the OurWhisky Foundation, Fiona Stewart, the driving force behind Falkirk Distillery and Kirsten Blackburn, Head of Marketing at The Borders Distillery. Join us for a panel discussion on how each of these women came into the industry, the changes they see unfolding and what the future holds for the whisky trade. Each dram will illustrate and illuminate their stories. The event will end with a Q&A session open to the audience. Attendees must be of legal drinking age.

Sponsored by The Borders Distillery

THE BORDERS
DISTILLERY



Robert Harris

Baillie Gifford Marquee
9.00pm | £16, £14

Winner of the Walter Scott Prize with *An Officer and a Spy* and the author of a row of brilliant bestsellers, Robert has a very rare gift - a combination of high intelligence, great writing and the ability to fashion page turning plots that keep readers up half the night. He is the supreme historical novelist, a prize-winner who tops the charts for months. *Act of Oblivion* is a masterly novel, much of it set in early colonial New England. Col. William Goffe and Col. Edward Whalley, the two men who signed the death warrant of King Charles I, are pursued relentlessly by Richard Nayler, an agent of Charles II's Privy Council. *Act of Oblivion* was chosen by four newspapers as Book of the Year for 2022.

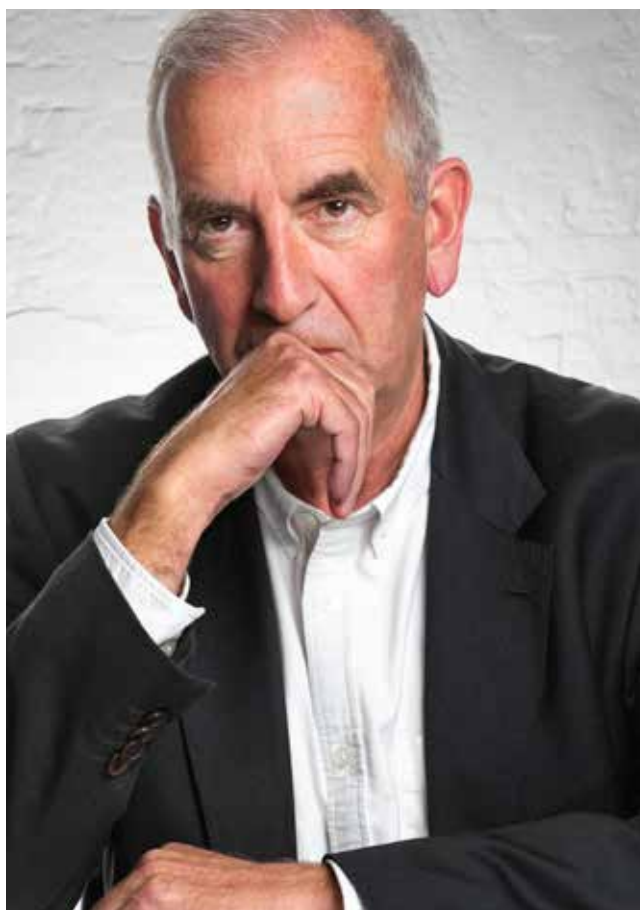


Image: Nick Grogan

Robin Ince: Bibliomaniac

Cullen Kilshaw Marquee
9.00pm | £14, £12

In 2021, Robin Ince's stadium tour with his The Infinite Monkey Cage partner Professor Brian Cox was postponed due to the pandemic. He decided instead to go on a tour visiting bookshops from Wigtown to Penzance; from Swansea to Margate. The result was *Bibliomaniac* which is packed with witty anecdotes and tall tales and takes the reader on a whirlwind adventure across Britain as Robin explores his lifelong love of bookshops and books. If you are a book lover, please don't miss this hugely entertaining session.



The Hot Club of Halifax

BSW Group Marquee | 9.00pm - 10.15pm | £12, £10

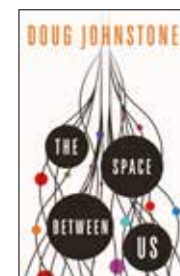
If you fancy a bit of music to ease you into the weekend, The Hot Club of Halifax could be the answer. With Andy Lawrenson on violin and vocals, Vernon Bigsby on lead and rhythm guitar and Ges Cavileri on vocals and rhythm guitar you'll be treated to a mixture of Gypsy Jazz - think Django Reinhardt and Stephane Grappelli - a bit of swing, some Latin and a bit of folk music from around the world. All this delivered with warmth and humour by outstanding musicians - what could be better?



Doug Johnstone

CSY Architects Marquee
9.00pm | £8, £6

The Space Between Us is a completely absorbing novel, highly inventive and unputdownable. When three strangers suffer strokes after seeing dazzling lights over Edinburgh and then awake entirely recovered, they are all convinced their ordeal is connected to the octopus-like alien creature discovered on a nearby beach. But they aren't the only ones with an interest in the creature, with others who want to capture it at all costs. This is an adrenaline-filled first contact novel, laced with empathy, optimism and a celebration of our capacity to connect with one another, from one of Scotland's most revered authors.



SATURDAY 17 JUNE

www.bordersbookfestival.org

BordersBook Festival where words come alive!
15-18 JUNE 2023
HARMONY GARDEN • MELROSE • SCOTTISH BORDERS



Mixed Form Yoga & Breathwork

Baillie Gifford Marquee | 12.15pm | £10

Led by Yoga Ganesh's Braxton, this session is a mixture of hatha, flow and restorative yoga disciplines, alongside breathwork and some organic sound instruments. Here we will predominantly look at the importance of breath and prana, the benefits of life force and the ancient healing properties of pranayama, before we experience the breathing and healing properties as a practical exercise. Suitable for both beginners and seasoned yogis. Bring warm clothing and your own yoga mat.



James Naughtie: The Spy Across the Water

Cullen Kilshaw Marquee
12.15pm | £14, £12

The spying game won't leave Will Flemyng alone. James Naughtie's ex-spook is now British ambassador in Washington and he's embroiled again in a story from his past that put lives at stake and rekindles for him perhaps the most dangerous but fulfilling relationship he's ever known. Set at a political turning point in the 1980s, *The Spy Across the Water* tells interlocking stories from the Cold War and the Northern Ireland Troubles in a novel described by Lee Child as 'the best kind of thriller - intelligent, resonant and suspenseful...and plausible'.



image: Harry Cory Wright

Anne Glenconner
Baillie Gifford Marquee | 2.00pm | £16, £14

Anne is the bestselling author of *Lady in Waiting*, a memoir of her extraordinary life in the shadow of the crown, and she now reveals more about her unexpected life in *Whatever Next?* Now in her ninetieth year, she is happier than she has ever been, having lived a life of stark contrasts, from the splendours of Holkham Hall to living in a tent in the jungle of Mustique and from travelling the world as Princess Margaret's lady in waiting to coping with her wildly volatile husband, Lord Glenconner. *Whatever Next?* is richly entertaining and Anne is a brilliant storyteller.

BSL

THE McINROY & WOOD LECTURE

Kate Bingham & Tim Hames

Cullen Kilshaw Marquee
2.00pm | £14, £12

The Long Shot: The Inside Story of the Race to Vaccinate Britain is much more than a first draft of history. It is compelling, accessible and an edge of the seat account of how British innovators vaccinated the UK in an amazingly short time. On 3rd April 2020, the likelihood of producing an effective Covid vaccine was 15% at best. By 8th December of that year, the first NHS patient had been vaccinated. *The Long Shot* reveals how a small, dedicated team, under one woman's tenacious leadership, achieved a scientific miracle. Working from a cottage miles from Westminster, Kate Bingham juggled suppliers, Whitehall, the media circus, political manoeuvres and administrative meddling to pull off something remarkable. This is an unmissable session about something that affected all of us deeply. Chaired by Michael Moore.



image: Tom Kates



McInroy & Wood

PERSONAL INVESTMENT MANAGERS

SAT 17 JUNE



You, me, ADHD. Rory meets... Shaparak Khorsandi

Baillie Gifford Marquee | 3.45pm | £16, £14

The brilliant comedian, author and star of many radio & TV shows from Live at the Apollo and The News Quiz to Have I Got News For You and I'm A Celebrity... talks about her work and her forthcoming book on ADHD and, with fellow ADHD-er Rory Bremner, opens up about life with ADHD: the highs, the lows and the maddening bits in between. Do all comedians have ADHD? Do you? And if so (and you've managed to read this far), what can two top comedians do about it? A fascinating and eye-opening treat.



Image: Heathcliff O'Malley



Archie Macpherson

Cullen Kilshaw Marquee
3.45pm | £14, £12

Touching the Heights: Personal Portraits of Scottish Sporting Greats gives us a very different look at thirteen people who have inspired Archie in his fifty years of broadcasting. He invites the reader to join him around a fantasy dinner table as he explores the lives of these remarkable figures: Tommy Docherty, Jackie Paterson, Jim Baxter, Eric Brown, Jimmy Johnstone, Sandra Whittaker, Dr Richard Budgett, Ally MacLeod, Jock Stein, Sir Alex Ferguson, Bill McLaren and Graeme Souness. Be a fly on the dining room wall and enjoy Archie exploring what makes and made these sporting icons special. **Chaired by Andrew Cotter.**

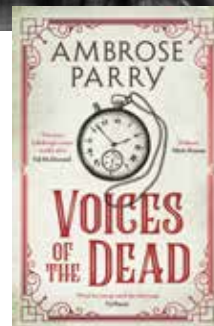


Image: Alan Trotter

Ambrose Parry: Voices of the Dead

BSW Group Marquee | 3.45pm | £12, £10

Voices of the Dead is the latest instalment of the gripping Raven and Fisher mystery series from the husband and wife duo of Chris Brookmyre and Marisa Haetzman. It is 'Brilliantly conceived, fiendishly plotted,' according to Mick Herron, author of the *Slow Horses* spy series. Body parts have been found at Surgeons' Hall and they are not anatomy specimens. Set in Edinburgh in 1853, the hunt for a killer begins – before he kills again. The prime suspect is an accomplished actor, a man of a thousand faces, a master of disguise. The stage is set for a grand and deadly illusion...



Dr Emma Hepburn: A Toolkit for Your Emotions

CSY Architects Marquee | 3.45pm | £8, £6

In this easy-to-follow handbook, clinical psychologist and neuropsychologist Dr Emma Hepburn takes a deep dive into how we feel and explains all the tools you need to intercept and redirect challenging emotion. From joy to anger, shame to stress and anxiety, Emma has practical and effective ways to feel instantly calmer and more contented. In a world of white noise, it is often hard to hear - or even find - the mental health support you need. Emma has a unique way of cutting through to the heart of the issues we all face day in, day out in this relatable, practical and knowledgeable guide.

Sponsored by Baillie Gifford



Image: Chris Close

SAT 17 JUNE



Andrew Cotter

Baillie Gifford Marquee
5.30pm | £16, £14



The dogs that broke the internet are back, having chewed at it a bit more. Andrew's brilliant and hilarious sporting commentaries on a series of online contests between his two labradors have made Olive and Mabel global superstars. Game of Bones has been viewed more than fifty million times. In his two books about life with the dogs *Olive, Mabel and Me* and *Dog Days*, Andrew writes of the bond they have with each other in their lives together, walking and climbing in the mountains, snoozing on the sofa and finding peace, joy and happiness away from the hectic world of the media.

Sponsored by Border Vets



Helena Kennedy

Cullen Kilshaw Marquee
5.30pm | £14, £12



Misjustice: How British Law is Failing Women is a fascinating and chilling book that insists on change. Two women a week are killed by a spouse or a partner. Every seven minutes a

woman is raped. One of Britain's most eminent lawyers and defenders of human rights, Helena Kennedy has written unflinchingly about new evidence that women are being discriminated against by the law and its institutions. From the shocking lack of female judges to the continuing scandal of female prisons, the need for change is unanswerable.



image: Alister Thorpe



Hew Strachan

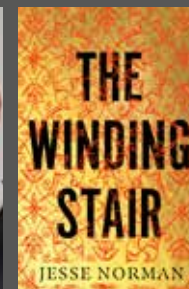
BSW Group Marquee | 5.30pm | £12, £10

In memory of Francis Hamilton, former chairman of the Borders Book Festival who contributed an enormous amount to what it now is, Sir Hew comes to Melrose to talk about one of Francis's great passions, military history. The author of the definitive history of the First World War, Hew was Professor of the History of War at Oxford University and is now Professor of International Relations at The University of St Andrews. Winner of many awards and the author of more than a dozen books, he is both immensely knowledgeable and a superb communicator.

Jesse Norman

CSY Architects Marquee | 5.30pm | £8, £6

The Winding Stair is a brilliant historical novel set at a pivotal moment. Elizabeth I is dying, James VI waits to accede. But who will thrive, and who will fail under the new king? Will it be the scholar, Francis Bacon, whose brilliance is the envy of the court? Or his hated rival, Edward Coke, already acclaimed as the greatest lawyer of his generation? This is the gripping, beautifully crafted story of these two founders of the modern state and their bitter struggle. Written by Jesse Norman, an MP and government minister who understands something of what passes down corridors of power, then and now.



Andy Burnham

Baillie Gifford Marquee
7.15pm | £16, £14

A Life in Books. Former cabinet minister and now Mayor of Greater Manchester, Andy will talk about how a lifetime's reading has shaped his views and what he enjoys as literary escapism from the world of politics. He sees his current role as a means of promoting an English version of devolution and his thoughts on how to spread the power from what he calls the 'Westminster Bubble' will find a ready audience in Melrose.



SAT 17 JUNE

Rory meets... Theo Fennell

Cullen Kilshaw Marquee
7.15pm | £14, £12

Theo Fennell is a legend. The King of Bling and jeweller to the stars (Elton John, Madonna and Lady Gaga among them) he is also, in Rory Bremner's words, "wonderful company, endlessly kind, and the funniest raconteur I know". Now he has written his autobiography, *I fear for this boy*, subtitled 'some chapters of accidents', which traces our hero's chaotic and charmed life from Eton schoolboy to one-man-band ('we fell out') to alcoholic to society jeweller in a gloriously entertaining and moving romp. 'I can't recommend the ride highly enough' (Stephen Fry). A total delight.



Image: Johanne Atkinson

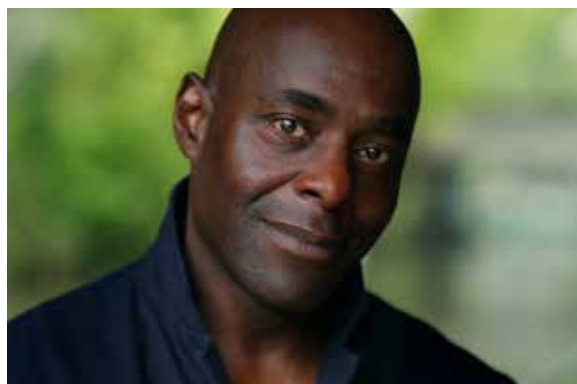
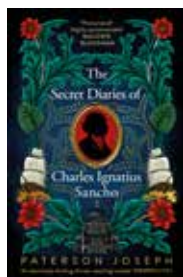


Image: Faye Thomas

Paterson Joseph

BSW Group Marquee | 7.15pm | £12, £10



Actor and writer Paterson Joseph's brilliant debut historical novel *The Secret Diaries of Charles Ignatius Sancho* is based on the true story of the man born on a slave ship who went on to be a writer, leading abolitionist and the first Black Briton known to have voted in an election. The book describes Ignatius Sancho's birth at sea and the ensuing journey that finds him dodging slave traders in Georgian England, learning to read thanks to a kindly duke who took him in, meeting the king, writing and playing acclaimed music, and leading the fight to end slavery. Paterson will be talking to the Duke of Buccleuch about Sancho's extraordinary life and how historical fiction can help breathe fresh life into real historical figures.

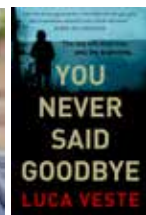


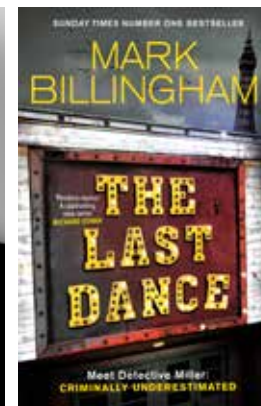
Image: Ean Flanders

Stuart Neville & Luca Veste

CSY Architects Marquee | 7.15pm | £8, £6

Two excellent novels about how the past comes back to haunt the present. *The House of Ashes* by Stuart Neville is a house built on secrets, an old woman in thrall to her past, a young woman fighting for her life. This is a chilling tale set in the dark heart of rural Ireland. *You Never Said Goodbye* by Luca Veste breathes new life into the psychological thriller genre with a captivating and gripping storyline that is part missing person mystery, part all action thriller and a tale that will get you on the edge of your seats and keep you there until the last page is turned.

Image: Steve Best



Rory meets... Jon Culshaw

Baillie Gifford Marquee | 9.00pm | £16, £14

What do you get when you put Britain's two top impressionists together in a tent in Melrose? Come and find out as Rory Bremner interviews and compares notes with the brilliant star of *Dead Ringers* and *The Impressions Show* (and keen astronomer) about his life, career and the many voices in his head, from Tom Baker and Ozzy Osbourne to Patrick Moore and Les Dawson, the subject of Jon's latest one-man show. Part masterclass, part joyride, a whole feast of characters: expect dozens of voices for the price of one. Well, maybe two.



Mark Billingham

Cullen Kilshaw Marquee
9.00pm | £14, £12

Meet Detective Miller. He is eccentric, offbeat, a dancer, he has no respect whatever for authority and he is the best hope Blackpool has for keeping crime off the streets. A double murder in a seaside hotel sees Miller attempt to solve what appears to be a case of mistaken identity. *The Last Dance* is the first in a new series in twenty years from one of Britain's greatest crime writers – and it is a superb debut for Detective Miller. Chaired by Chris Brookmyre.

SAT 17 JUNE



Colin MacIntyre (aka Mull Historical Society)

BSW Group Marquee | 9.00pm | £12, £10

It's little wonder that, after much of a Hebridean childhood spent listening to music and outlandish stories at ceilidhs in his grandparents' sitting room, Colin MacIntyre of Mull Historical Society has himself now become an acclaimed award-winning musician and writer with his new Ivor Punch crime novel *When the Needle Drops* due to come out later this year. For his new MHS album *In My Mind There's a Room* Colin has returned to record in that very room where his poet grandfather wrote, collaborating with some of his favourite authors including Val McDermid, Ian Rankin, Nick Hornby, Jackie Kay and Sebastian Barry, who have provided lyrics on rooms significant to them. In this event, Colin will perform tracks from the album plus his back catalogue and Val McDermid will join him to discuss the creative process behind his unique and exciting project.



Mairi Kidd: We Are All Witches

CSY Architects Marquee | 9.00pm | £8, £6



From 1563 to 1736 Scotland put thousands of women to death for witchcraft. Their supposed crimes have much to tell us about attitudes to women in the past, and in the present day. *We Are All Witches* is a tribute to those persecuted in the 16th and 17th century Scottish witchcraft trials and explores women from history, mythology and folklore whose supposed magical associations marked them out for good and ill. Join author Mairi Kidd as she examines the forces at work in one of the darkest episodes of Scotland's history and to consider their echoes in the present day.

SUNDAY 18 JUNE
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BordersBook Festival where words come alive!
15-18 JUNE 2023
HARMONY GARDEN · MELROSE · SCOTTISH BORDERS



Breath & Organic Soundscape Bath

Baillie Gifford Marquee | 12.00pm | £10

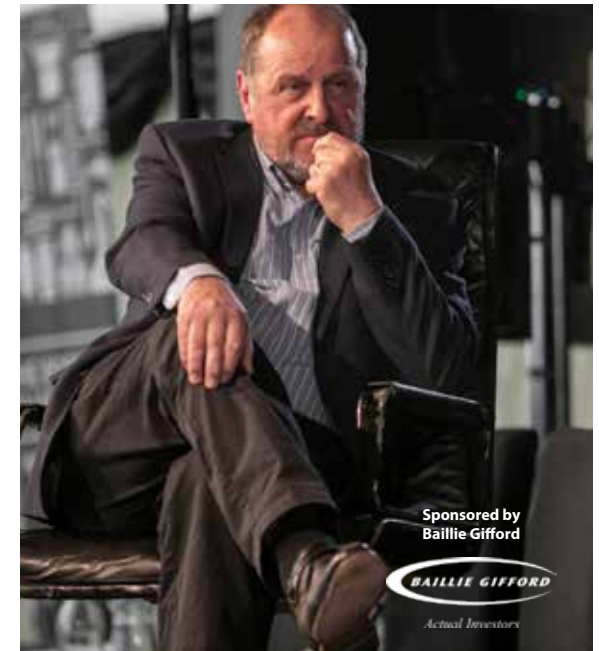
Led by Yoga Ganesh's Braxton, this wellness session combines flowing yogic movements with breath and focused awareness, accompanied by guided meditation and organic soundscape. The reflections here will be on the symbiosis between breath, sound and internal calm. As a group we will practice slow, soft movement, before guiding towards mindful reflections and into our Soundscape Bath. Suitable for both beginners and seasoned yogis. Bring warm clothing and your own yoga mat.



What They Don't Teach You About Money

Cullen Kilshaw Marquee
12.00pm | £14, £12

As households grapple with the cost of living crisis, many of us are learning the lessons of personal finance the hard way. When it comes to handling your money better, it's often difficult to know where to begin. Not any longer! FT consumer editor and personal finance expert, Claer Barrett and Suzanne Mulholland, aka The Batch Lady, offer practical money saving advice and habit changing tips on how to master the financial headwinds ahead.



Sponsored by
Baillie Gifford



James Naughtie

Baillie Gifford Marquee | 1.45pm | £16, £14

A year of turmoil and torment for leaders. A first minister gone in a flash, two prime ministers forced out. Politics in flux, with a general election on the way. And in the United States the first former president with a criminal indictment tries to find a way back to power next year. What else can it mean but a chance to fill the tent for James Naughtie's incisive and witty take on politics turned upside down. As ever at the festival, unmissable.

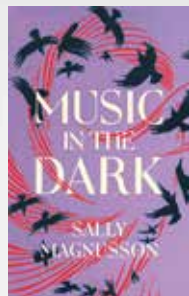
BSL

SUN 18 JUNE



Sally Magnusson

Cullen Kilshaw Marquee | 1.45pm | £14, £12



Well known as a journalist and TV presenter, Sally is also a highly acclaimed author, with her brilliant novels *The Sealwoman's Gift* and *The Ninth Child*. Her new novel *Music in the Dark* springs from family experience - the Highland Clearances of the 19th century. It is set in 1884, opening in a tenement room and kitchen flat in the town of Rutherglen, near Glasgow. A woman with stark injuries to her face and a man recently arrived from America discover a shared past in the brutal evictions which took place in Strathcarron 30 years earlier. Suffused with poetry, this book looks with searing honesty at love in older age, depicting with poignant empathy the long-term physical and mental effects the past can have on us.

Supported by the Dr David Summers Charitable Trust



Image: Dave Hogan

The Lost King: The Search for Richard III

Cullen Kilshaw Marquee | 3.30pm | £14, £12



Now a major film with Sally Hawkins and Steve Coogan, Philippa Langley's remarkable story tells how she found the grave of history's most controversial monarch under a car park in Leicester. She refused to be ignored and took on the country's most eminent historians, forcing them to think again. Philippa comes to Melrose to tell us how she solved a five hundred year-old mystery and forced history books to be rewritten. Alongside her story, Michael Jones has written of the war, the battle where King Richard died and his posthumous reputation. "It reads like an up-all-night thriller," wrote the Mail on Sunday.

Gordon Brown

Baillie Gifford Marquee
3.30pm | £16, £14

Is in conversation with Alistair Moffat. The former Prime Minister is the author of *Seven Ways to Change the World*, *My Life*, *Our Times*, *My Scotland*, *Our Britain*, *Beyond the Crash*, *Courage: Eight Portraits*, and other books.

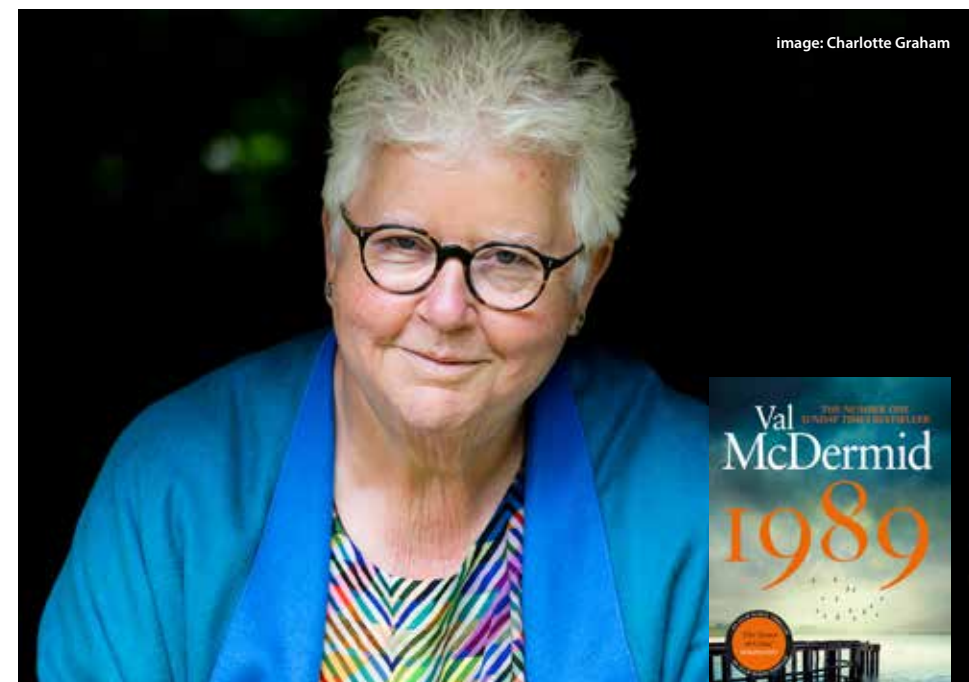


image: Charlotte Graham



Val McDermid

Baillie Gifford Marquee | 5.15pm | £16, £14

BSL

The Queen of Crime returns to Melrose! *1989* is the second pulse racing thriller in Val's new bestselling series featuring the journalist, Allie Burns. The year begins with the memorial services for the victims of the Lockerbie bombing, the downing of Pan-Am Flight 103, but Allie has barely filed her copy when she stumbles over a story about HIV/AIDS that will shock her into a major change of direction. And change is in the air. The world of newspapers is seeing a revolution. And to add to the mix there are seismic rumblings behind the Iron Curtain - kidnap, murder and much mayhem for Allie to deal with. In addition to being the creator of riveting stories, Val is also the lead singer with the Fun Lovin' Crime Writers band.

SUN 18 JUNE

Alistair Moffat

Cullen Kilshaw Marquee | 5.15pm | £14, £12

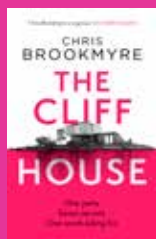


Scotland's *Forgotten Past* is a roller coaster ride up and down the back alleys of our history. From the way in which the convulsions of geology formed the land millions of years ago and how the land formed the people thousands of years ago to the forgotten sectarian riots of Morningside (never!) in 1930s Edinburgh to the Nazi MP for Peebles and Southern Midlothian and to the Borders blacksmith who changed the world, this tour of dark corners and the discovery of the mislaid, misplaced and misunderstood bits of Scotland's story is revealing – an alternative view of this bad-tempered little nation on the northwest edge of Europe.

Chris Brookmyre & Jenny Colgan

CSY Architects Marquee | 5.15pm | £8, £6

Two different writers, two different genres, two very different stories. Or are they? Jenny Colgan's *The Summer Skies* and Chris Brookmyre's *The Cliff House* both deal with visitors who find themselves trapped on remote Scottish islands. Find out how two leading exponents of romantic and crime fiction each use the same ingredients to create something unique.



Anna Murphy

BSW Group Marquee
5.15pm | £12, £10

In her new book, the Fashion Director of The Times gives us a wise, inspiring and invigorating guide to making the most of life as a grown-up woman - from how to dress your best to how to feel your best. *Destination*

Fabulous will help you celebrate the wisdom and inner beauty that comes with age. Anna's years of writing about fashion and beauty have opened her eyes to the alternative ways of thinking found in disciplines such as yoga and Chinese medicine. For her natural is always best. Let Anna show you how the bumps on her road - both professional and personal - have helped her find the way to her true path. Her hope is that this book will help you to find yours, too.

image: Charlotte Belle



Angie Spoto: The Grief Nurse

Davidson Chalmers Stewart Storytelling Tent
5.15pm | £8, £6

Imagine you could be rid of your sadness, your anxiety, your heartache, your fear. Imagine you could take those feelings from others and turn them into something beautiful. Lynx is a Grief Nurse. Kept by the Asters, a wealthy, influential family, to ensure they're never troubled by negative emotions, she knows no other life. When news arrives that the Asters' eldest son is dead, Lynx does what she can to alleviate their Sorrow. As guests flock to the Asters' private island for the wake, bringing their own secrets, lies and grief, tensions rise. Then the bodies start to pile up. With romance, intrigue and spectacular gothic world-building, this spellbinding debut novel by Angie Spoto is immersive and unforgettable.

Supported by the Dr David Summers Charitable Trust

image: Susie Lowe



Bake Off's Giuseppe Dell'Anno, Peter Sawkins & Rahul Mandal

Baillie Gifford Marquee | 7.00pm | £16, £14

Great British Bake Off winners Giuseppe Dell'Anno (2021), Peter Sawkins (2020) and Rahul Mandal (2018) join us to share each of their fantastic new books. Giuseppe serves up gorgeous recipes along with indispensable tips for creating sensational *Italian Bakes*. *Peter's Baking Party* is a fun collection of tips and recipes to inspire kids of all ages to get creative in the kitchen. Rahul's book brims with brilliant hacks for creating *Showstopping Cakes* as well as providing a collection of irresistible recipes. The trio will be chatting about all things baking and Bake Off – the perfect recipe for a great evening! **Chaired by Sue Lawrence**



image: Matt Russell

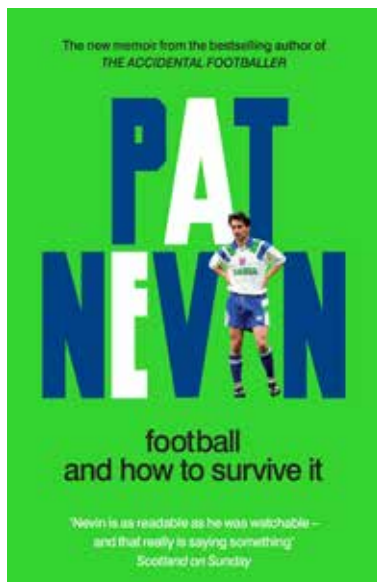
SUN 18 JUNE



Pat Nevin

Cullen Kilshaw Marquee
7.00pm | £14, £12

Football and How to Survive It is an exceptional memoir about the madness of life and football. Pat takes us on a journey to the less glamorous regions of the game. From Tranmere Rovers to Kilmarnock, he plays some of the best football of his life before finding himself, strangely, both a player and Chief Executive of the Scottish First Division Club, Motherwell. This memoir is a real one-off, uncovering the reality of the sport in all its complex, confusing and calamitous glory. Once you've read it, you'll never look at the game in the same way again.



Malcolm MacGregor: The Namib

CSY Architects Marquee | 7.00pm | £8, £6

The Namib is a simply stunning book of photographs of the great desert of Namibia. Malcolm went on a journey through an extraordinary landscape, from the Kunene River in the north to the Skeleton Coast, the great dunes at Sossusvlei and the ghost town of Kolmanskop in the south. This book is literary treasure, nothing less than a beautiful work of art.



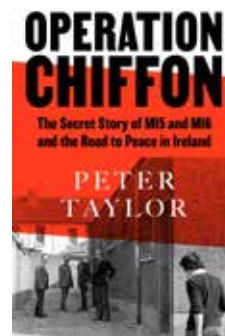
Arlene Phillips

Baillie Gifford Marquee | 8.30pm | £16, £14

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We begin the festival with laughter from Nina Conti and end it with sparkle from Dame Arlene Phillips. Next to the NHS, Strictly Come Dancing is probably as close to a national religion as Britain gets and Arlene is one of its high priestesses. In a unique and exclusive session, she comes to Melrose to talk not only about the Strictly years, about Brucie, Craig and Len, but also about a stellar career in her own right. Made a dame in 2022 for services to dance, she is a showbiz legend having choreographed hit shows from Starlight Express to Grease, Guys and Dolls and many others on Broadway and in the West End. Arlene has had a career that would get a ten from Len and all of the rest of us.



Peter Taylor: Operation Chiffon

Cullen Kilshaw Marquee | 8.30pm | £14, £12

Operation Chiffon is a revelation, and a wonderfully well written account of extraordinary events. On its 25th anniversary, it tells how the Good Friday Agreement began to be possible as MI5 and MI6 worked for a ceasefire with the IRA. Details of the intelligence operation that helped bring peace to Ireland are uncovered for the first time in this gripping narrative after being kept secret for forty years. The legendary BBC journalist, Peter Taylor, had unique access to the officers involved and he relates how they risked their lives to help secure the fragile peace. 'An extraordinary story... A true tale of espionage,' wrote The Times.

SUN 18 JUNE



Fun Lovin' Crime Writers

BSW Group Marquee | 8.30pm - 10.30pm | £16, £14

Having temporarily put down their pens and picked up guitars, this crime-writing super-group – Mark Billingham, Val McDermid, Chris Brookmyre, Luca Veste, Doug Johnstone and Stuart Neville – happily murder much loved songs by The Clash, Elvis Costello, The Beatles, Talking Heads, The Jam, Johnny Cash and many others currently considering legal action. Between them they've sold over 20 million books and won every major crime-writing award, but now they're rocking out on the stage instead of the page and performing roof-removing shows at major festivals worldwide. Murder on the dancefloor is guaranteed.

www.funlovincrimewriters.com



Mara Menzies

CSY Architects Marquee | 8.30pm | £8, £6

Storyteller Mara Menzies has written a novel that brings together African and Scottish culture in a unique and brilliant fusion. *Blood and Gold: A Journey of Shadows* tells the tale of Jeda, the daughter of an African mother and a Scottish father and it uses myth, magical realism and memory to conjure a riveting narrative. When Jeda's mother dies, she leaves her daughter a box of stories which help her to make sense of her identity and to cope with her future in Scotland. Filled with tragedy, wonder and magic, this story explores the themes of loss and oppression, while asking us to examine our own identities, attitudes and humanities.

Baillie Gifford Children's Programme Saturday 17 & Sunday 18 June

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& ORCHARD
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Join us for a fun-filled weekend for all ages!

Come and explore around the Orchard, it's a beautiful family-friendly space to relax and have fun in. There's space to play, free activities and our food village serves a range of food and drink for both adults and children.

There's lots of fun and fascinating books by all our children's authors in the Festival Bookshop at Harmony Garden.

**Feel free to come in
and have a browse.**



Tickets

Box Office: 0131 290 2112 / www.bordersbookfestival.org

There is NO entry charge for adults accompanying children to our family events. Please note, however, that our events are ticketed, so remember to put your FREE adult ticket in the basket at the time of booking. Tickets must be booked in advance for all events.

Accompanying Children to Events

Children under ten must be accompanied to all events and everyone attending needs a ticket. Space is limited so we can admit ticket holders only.

Age Suitability

Ages in listings are for guidance only.

Photography & Video

Official photography and videos may be taken throughout the festival and used in further publicity. No unofficial photography or filming is permitted, and our official media team will be wearing book festival identification.

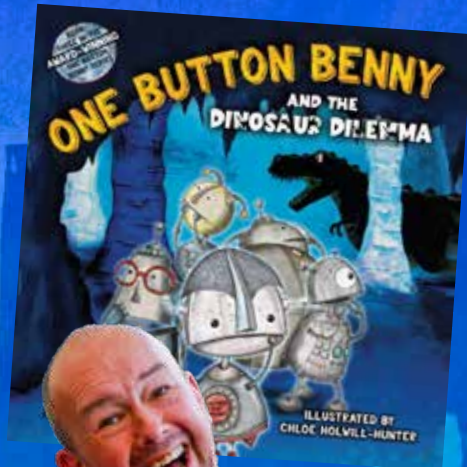
ALL ACCOMPANYING ADULTS GO FREE!

Baillie Gifford
Children's Programme
**Saturday
17 June**

Robots and Dinosaurs

BSW Group Marquee | 9.45am | £6 | Age 3 - 6

It's here, the brand new One Button Benny picture book, *One Button Benny and the Dinosaur Dilemma*. Trapped underground with a hungry dinosaur on the loose, can Benny save the day and get everyone home in time for the Friday dance party? Join award-winning author Alan Windram for a fun-filled family event with stories, sing-along songs and some robot dancing, as he brings the third picture book in the award-winning One Button Benny series to the Borders.



Bookbug Rhyme Sessions

CSY Architects Marquee
9.45am - 10.10am | 10.20am -
10.45am | FREE | Babies & under 3s

Join Live Borders Libraries for fun-packed sessions of interactive songs and stories for babies and toddlers.

No ticket required.



Storytelling the Super Power Agency Way!

Davidson Chalmers Stewart Storytelling Tent
9.45am - 11.00am | £6 | Age 8 - 12

In this fun, high-energy interactive writing workshop, participants will work together with volunteers to craft a story from scratch, creating original characters and plots using the power of their imagination. We'll provide coloured pencils and markers to help bring characters to life on the page. Once the story reaches its climax, participants will separate and write their own ending.



Fairy Magic with Abbotsford

Abbotsford Teepee
10am - 3.45pm | FREE | All Ages

Join the team at the Abbotsford Teepee and take part in some crafty activities inspired by Sir Walter Scott's love of elves, fairies and supernatural tales! Activities are run on a drop-in basis with all materials provided.

Children must be accompanied by an adult.



Horrible Histories 30th Anniversary with Martin Brown

BSW Group Marquee
11.15am | £6 | Age 7+ and Families

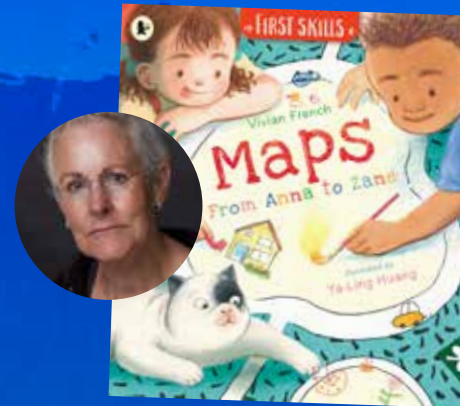


Join illustrator Martin Brown to celebrate 30 horrible years of the world's bestselling children's history series. Expect savage stories, gruesome games, foul facts and deadly drawing. Find out the best worst bits of history from brand new book *Horrible Histories: The Worst in the World* and pick up some wicked drawing tips. Fun for all the family!

Vivian French: Maps

CSY Architects Marquee | 11.15am | £6 | Age 4 - 7

Anna is going to tea with Zane, but how will she know which way to go? Answer... a map! Come and listen to the story then join in the fun of creating a map of your very own!

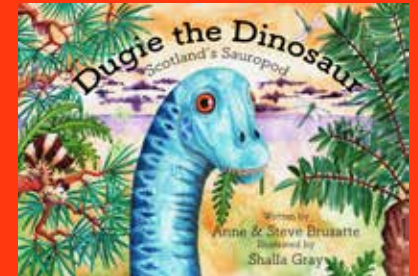


Lego Club

Davidson Chalmers Stewart Storytelling Tent | 11.45am | FREE | Age 4 - 11

Join the fun at Live Borders Libraries Lego Club where you can create your next art masterpiece with the LEGO bricks (or just build a castle...). Activity lasts one hour and is run on a drop-in basis.

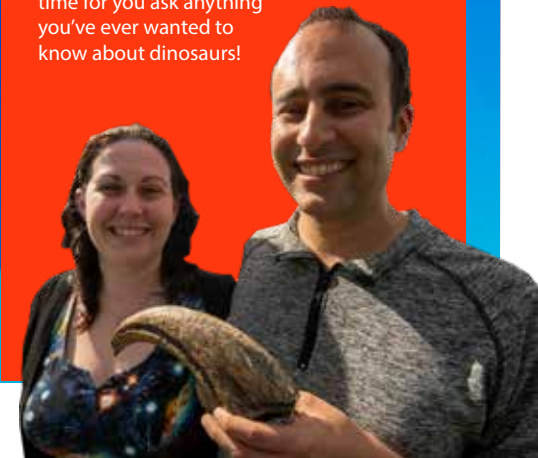
No ticket required.



Anne & Steve Brusatte: Scotland's Dinosaurs

BSW Group Marquee
12.45pm | £6 | Age 5 - 9

Back after a sell-out event last year! Did you know that dinosaurs once lived in Scotland, and that palaeontologists today find dinosaur bones and footprints on the Isle of Skye? Authors Anne and Steve Brusatte take you back to the time when Scotland was a real Jurassic Park, 170 million years ago, with their children's picture book *Dugie the Dinosaur*. There will also be an interactive session showing off fossils collected by Steve, who is a palaeontologist at the University of Edinburgh, with plenty of time for you ask anything you've ever wanted to know about dinosaurs!



Baillie Gifford
Children's Programme
**Saturday
17 June**



Tolá Okogwu: Onyeka and the Rise of the Rebels

CSY Architects Marquee
12.45pm | £6 | Age 8+



Meet Tolá Okogwu and her epic superhero in *Onyeka and the Rise of the Rebels*, the latest book in the Onyeka adventure series. Onyeka has a lot of hair – the kind that makes strangers stop in the street. She's always felt insecure about her vibrant curls, until she makes an important discovery: she can control her hair with her mind. Perfect for fans of X-Men and Black Panther, Tolá Okogwu will challenge everything you know about superheroes and tell you what it's really like to have superpowers in your hair.

Storytime

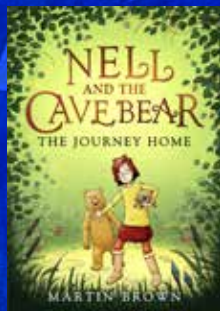
Davidson Chalmers Stewart Storytelling Tent
1.15pm - 1.45pm | FREE | All Ages

Join Mark Timmins for a great collection of magical, funny and captivating stories from your best loved writers. Especially suited for 3 – 10s. No ticket required.

Kjartan Poskitt: The Runaway Pea

BSW Group Marquee
2.15pm | £6 | Age 3 - 6

It's six o'clock and we're ready for tea – but look! What's that? It's a runaway pea... Watch Kjartan bring his award-winning Runaway Pea books alive as our little green hero rolls under a fridge, falls down a drain and flies right over the town. There's also a sneaky look at his latest book *The Snowman's Nose!*



Martin Brown: Nell and the Cave Bear

CSY Architects Marquee
2.15pm | £6 | Age 5 - 9

Join Martin Brown, the mega bestselling illustrator of Horrible Histories as he brings the stone-age world to life with Nell and the Cave Bear – and now, *Nell and the Cave Bear: The Journey Home*. Expect (pre)history, adventure and plenty of drawing!



Joan Haig: Tigers are Magic

Davidson Chalmers Stewart Storytelling Tent
2.15pm | £6 | Age 8+

Tiger Skin Rug, Joan Haig's award-winning novel, features a tiger with magical powers. Join Joan in this interactive session and learn about her storybook tiger and about the magic of tigers in the real world. Get ready for some tiger readings, a flying tiger, and lots of tiger facts!



Baillie Gifford
Children's Programme
**Sunday
18 June**



Kjartan Poskitt: Murderous Maths

BSW Group Marquee
12.00pm | £6 | Age 8 - 12 and Families

Join author Kjartan Poskitt to discover games you can't lose, strange number tricks and see if you can solve the very strange Bermuda Triangle Mystery. He'll be showing off his fabulous flexagons, he'll make an infinitely big hole in a postcard, and using a bit of magical maths he even makes a dragon from a cinema ticket!



Jonathan Meres: Noodle the Doodle Wins the Day

CSY Architects Marquee | 12.00pm | £6 | Age 5 - 9

It's Sports Day at Wigley Primary and Mr Reed's class is very excited. And with new events like Book Balancing and Speed Dressing to look forward to, who can blame them? Even Noodle the doodle wants to join in the fun! Join former ice cream van driver, stand-up comedian and hand model, Jonathan Meres, author of over 40 books for children, including the bestselling World of Norm series, as he unleashes the latest tale about everyone's favourite canine classroom assistant. On your barks...get set...GO!

Shake it up Tales: Sensory Stories and Crafts

Davidson Chalmers Stewart Storytelling Tent
12.00pm | £6 | All Ages**

Join storyteller Ailie Finlay from My Kind of Book for an inclusive session of sensory stories and crafts. Clap, jingle and chant along with the stories and rhymes and then enjoy some simple and relaxing crafts.

**Lots of joining-in fun for everyone but particularly suitable for children with additional needs and their friends and families.





Fairy Magic with Abbotsford

Abbotsford Teepee
12.00pm - 4.30pm | FREE | All Ages

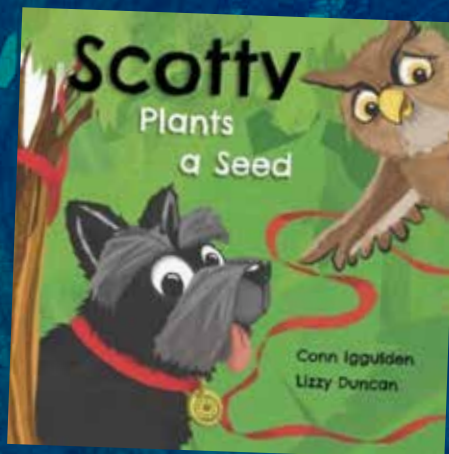
Join the team at the Abbotsford Teepee and take part in some crafty activities inspired by Sir Walter Scott's love of elves, fairies and supernatural tales! Activities are run on a drop-in basis with all materials provided. Children must be accompanied by an adult.



Lauren Child

BSW Group Marquee | 1.45pm | £6 | Age 7+

Lauren Child, award-winning author and illustrator, former Children's Laureate and creator of family favourites including *Charlie and Lola* and the Ruby Redford novels, talks about her character Clarice Bean and her latest novel *Clarice Bean: SCRAM*. Learn how Clarice Bean's family came to have a dog and how he got his name in this hilarious and joyous story, about how Clarice and her sister Marcie fall out over a pair of flip-flops and then fall back in again – united by a stray dog.



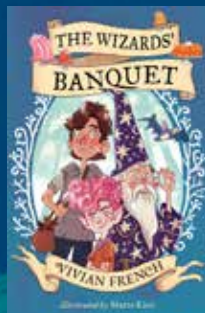
Lizzy Duncan: Scotty Plants a Seed

CSV Architects Marquee | 1.45pm | £6 | Age 3 - 6

Join illustrator Lizzy Duncan for a creative drawing workshop to learn all about a little dog who finds himself in a big adventure! Come with Scotty to the Island of Mull, India, Brazil, and Africa in his new book *Scotty Plants a Seed*, written by the amazing Conn Iggulden. Lizzy will guide you through how to draw Scotty and take you on a fun, creative journey thinking about the small things we can do to help protect our beautiful planet.

Vivian French: The Wizards' Banquet

Davidson Chalmers Stewart Storytelling Tent
1.45pm | £6 | Age 6 - 9



Forgetful wizards, evil wizards, batty bats, and an elf who can't decide if she's good or bad... Pippin Potts is on a hair-raising journey! Find out how Vivian French came to write this story... and help her create the best wizards' banquet ever!

Peter's Baking Party

BSW Group Marquee
3.30pm | £6 | Age 7 + and Families

Join Great British Bake Off winner Peter Sawkins for a talk and cookery demonstration using a recipe from his new book, *Peter's Baking Party*. With simple recipes for novice chefs and challenging bakes for adventurous cooks, plus step-by-step instructions to develop kitchen confidence, this book will inspire kids of all ages to get creative and learn all the essential skills needed to become a baking star. From breakfast pancakes to gluten-free loaves, tasty no-bakes to hearty puddings, and jam-packed full of party food ideas, young cooks can have endless fun creating unique and vibrant bakes the whole family will enjoy. Peter loves answering your questions, so come armed with plenty!



Secrets, Seaweed and Scoundrels with Justin Davies

Davidson Chalmers Stewart Storytelling Tent
3.30pm | £6 | Age 9 - 12



Welcome to Haarville - if you've arrived, you've survived. Off the grid and not on the maps, it's a place shrouded in fog and steeped in pungent pongs. Journey with author Justin Davies into the mysterious world of Manx Fearty, a twelve-year-old orphan who is about to lose his family's perpetual device shop to some sinister, suspicious newcomers.

Justin shares how and why he became a children's author and explains some of the ways he created the mysterious, murky world of his new book, *Haarville*. You'll also learn how you can use all the senses to create exciting story settings of your own. There'll even be a chance to devise your very own fishy, seaweedy menu – hope you're feeling hungry!

Bruna De Luca: I'm Not Cute, I'm Dangerous

CSV Architects Marquee | 3.30pm | £6 | Age 3 +



Can Fifi the fluffy crocodile stop her sisters teasing her for being different? Join children's author Bruna De Luca to hear how Fifi sets out to prove she's just as dangerous as her siblings, even if she is (whisper it) cute! A fun-

filled family event with interactive storytelling and snappy games about not judging by appearances and embracing your quirks.



that they are untrue, but an
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s matter. Many stories matter.
s have been used to
ess and to malign, but
s can also be used to empower
o humanize. Stories can break
gnity of a person. Stories
so repair that dignity.

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Find out how to enter at www.ywsp.co.uk



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Sir Walter Scott

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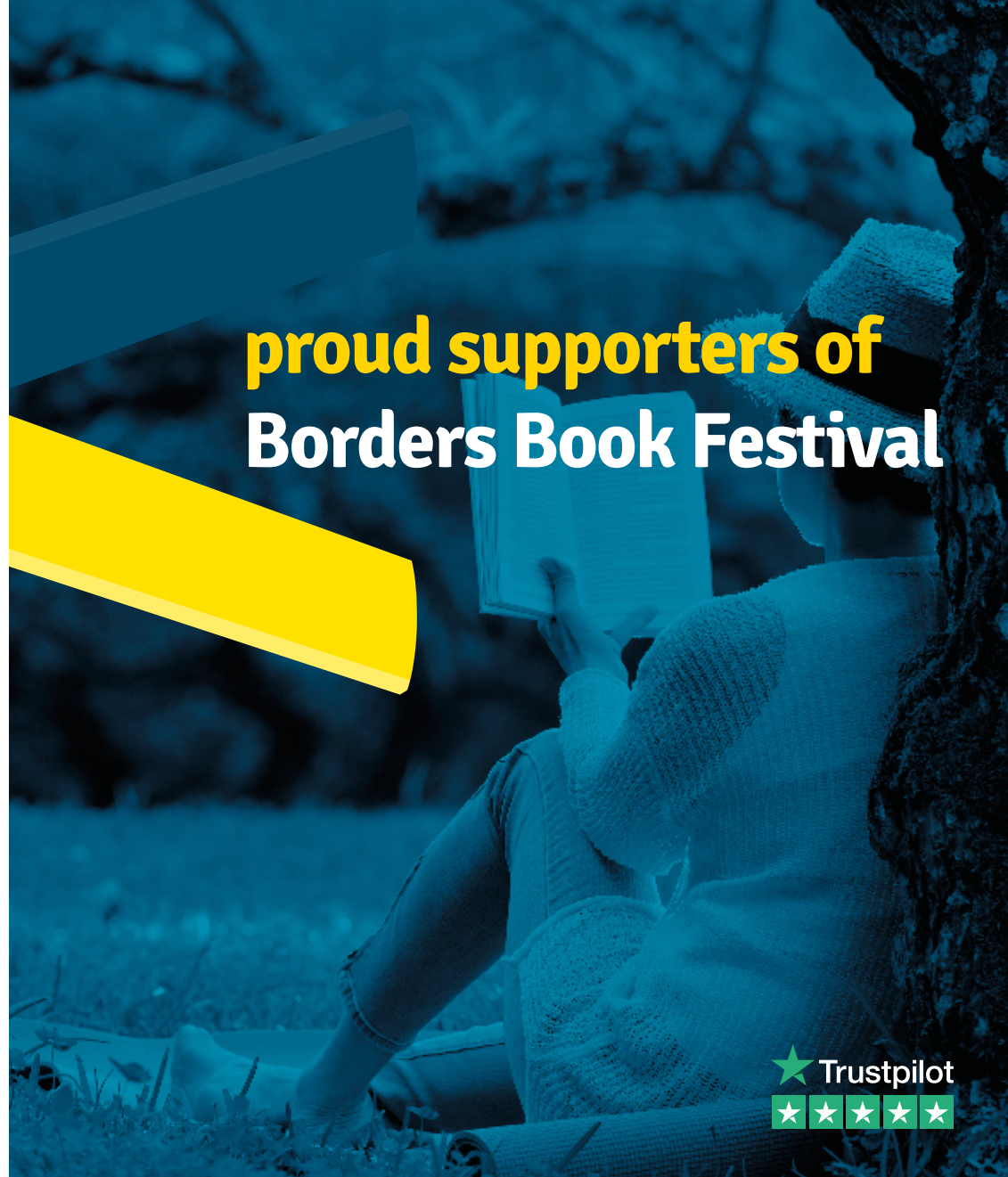


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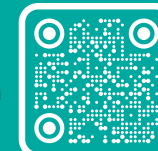
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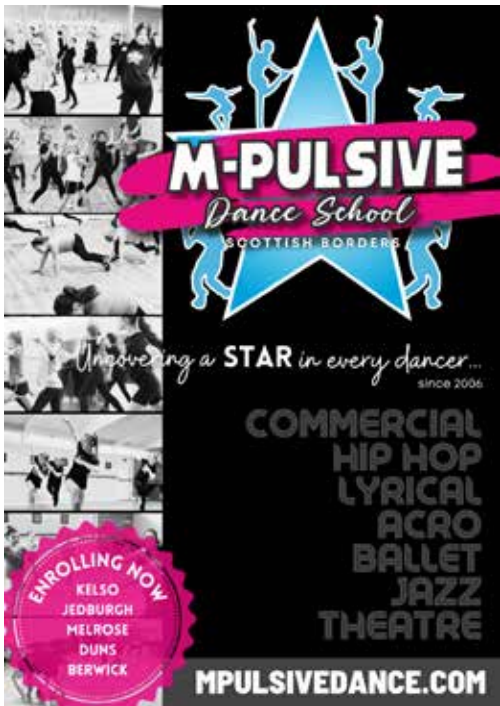
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