

BordersBook Festival where words come alive!

IN-PERSON
LIVESTREAMED
ON-DEMAND

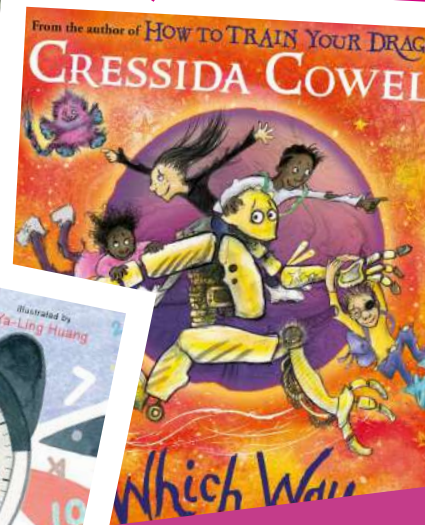
FREE BOOKS
HELP WITH
TRAVEL

THE BAILLIE GIFFORD

SCHOOLS PROGRAMME

THURSDAY 26 SEPTEMBER · 2024

HAWICK TOWN HALL & HEART OF HAWICK



Baillie Gifford™

www.bordersbookfestival.org



Welcome to the 2024 Baillie Gifford Schools Programme

Thursday 26 September 2024
HAWICK TOWN HALL & HEART OF HAWICK
IN-PERSON, LIVESTREAMED & ON-DEMAND

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Join us for a packed day of spectacular events which have been created exclusively for schools. Perfect for curious and creative young minds!

Events are suitable for pupils from Nursery to Primary 7 to enjoy. And this year we have introduced specially devised workshops for secondary schools too.

All events are in-person and a selection of these will also be livestreamed and available to view free via our partners at Inspire Learning Academy. Our livestreamed sessions will also be available to watch later free on-demand from the book festival website.

- All pupils attending in-person will receive a FREE book related to the event, which they can get signed by the author after the session.
- All Nursery - P7 events are 45 minutes in duration. Secondary school workshops run for two hours.
- All tickets for in-person attendance are still only £2 per pupil, per event, with free entry for accompanying adults.

THANK YOU TO BAILLIE GIFFORD

The Baillie Gifford Schools Programme enables pupils to experience the joy of reading and to interact with some of today's most entertaining and engaging writers for children. With Baillie Gifford's support, pupils attending in-person will also receive a free book related to the event. Additionally, some events will be available to view online: schools who choose to watch this way can enter a giveaway to receive free books for their school library.

Founded in 1908, Baillie Gifford & Co is an Edinburgh based independent investment management firm which employs more than 1,800 people. The firm plays an active role in the community and supports projects in education, social inclusion, and the arts.

THE BAILLIE GIFFORD BIG BOOK GIVEAWAY

Free books

Every pupil attending the Baillie Gifford Schools Programme in-person this year will automatically receive a free copy of a book relating to the event they come and see. Children will also have the opportunity to meet the author and get their book signed after each event - plan this into your visit to get the full schools day experience!

Competition

> *Book bundles for schools watching via livestream.*

For schools who choose to watch events via livestream instead of coming to the events in Hawick, we're running an exclusive competition to help grow your library collections. Three lucky schools will win a fantastic set of books by authors appearing in the 2024 Baillie Gifford Schools Programme. Winning schools will be selected at random from those who watch live online on 26 September.

[REGISTER HERE](#) if you are interested in watching any of our events via livestream.

Baillie Gifford Schools Programme At a Glance

Thursday 26 September 2024
HAWICK TOWN HALL & HEART OF HAWICK
IN-PERSON, LIVESTREAMED & ON-DEMAND

Time	Event/Activity	Year Group	Venue
FOR PRIMARY SCHOOLS			
10.00am - 10.45am	Magic and Dragons with Cressida Cowell	P3 - P6	Hawick Town Hall
10.00am - 10.45am	Vivian French: Telling the Time with Anna	Nursery - P3	Hawick Town Hall
10.00am - 10.45am	Invent the Future! with Alastair Chisholm	P5 - P7	Heart of Hawick
11.30am - 12.15pm	Supertato Silliness with Sue Hendra	P1 - P3	Hawick Town Hall
11.30am - 12.15pm	Dragon Tales from Across the World with Theresa Breslin	P4 - P7	Hawick Town Hall
11.30am - 12.15pm	David Macphail's Journey Around Scotland	P3 - P5	Heart of Hawick
1.00pm - 1.45pm	Two Beano Ed's Make a Supersonic Beano Comic!	P4 - P7	Hawick Town Hall
1.00pm - 1.45pm	Moira Coo: The Highland Coo Who Flew - with Alastair Chisholm	P1 - P3	Hawick Town Hall
1.00pm - 1.45pm	Bibi and the Box of Fairy Tales with Vivian French	P3 - P5	Heart of Hawick
FOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS			
10.00am - 12.00pm	Creating Connections: A Creative Writing Workshop with the Super Power Agency	S1 - S2	Heart of Hawick
12.30pm - 2.30pm	Creating Connections: A Creative Writing Workshop with the Super Power Agency	S3 - S5	Heart of Hawick

Representatives from Scottish Borders Libraries are at Hawick Town Hall throughout the day with information about resources for schools.

VENUE LOCATIONS

Hawick Town Hall
High Street, Hawick TD9 9EF

Heart of Hawick
Kirkstile, Hawick TD9 0AE

NEED HELP WITH TRAVEL COSTS?

If your group needs assistance to get to Hawick, we may be able to help you out with a travel grant of up to 75%. All travel support is on a first come, first served basis.

For location details, how to access a travel grant, and other useful information, see page 14.

MAIN SPONSOR

Baillie Gifford™

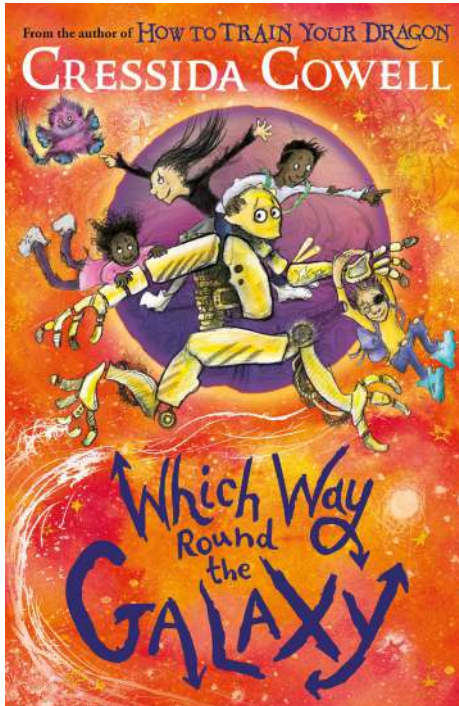
WITH ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FROM:



Magic and Dragons with Cressida Cowell

10.00am - 10.45am | Hawick Town Hall, Hawick | P3 - P6 | £2 per pupil

IN-PERSON



EVENT DETAILS

Join multi-million-selling author-illustrator of *How to Train Your Dragon*, Cressida Cowell, talking about her latest bestselling book, *Which Way Round the Galaxy*, which is packed with magic and adventure. She'll give tips to budding creators and tell everyone how she began writing about Vikings and Dragons in Scotland as a child.

The former children's laureate is hugely energetic and inspiring and she's been described as a national treasure!

BIOGRAPHY

Former Waterstones Children's Laureate Cressida Cowell MBE is the number one bestselling author-illustrator of the *How to Train Your Dragon*, *The Wizards of Once* and *Which Way to Anywhere* book series, and the author of the *Emily Brown* picture books, illustrated by Neal Layton.

She has sold over 16 million books worldwide in 46 languages. *How to Train Your Dragon* is also an Academy Award nominated billion-dollar DreamWorks film series, and a TV series shown on Netflix and CBBC. *Which Way to Anywhere* has also been optioned for film.



Cressida is a patron of Read for Good, an ambassador for the National Literacy Trust and the Woodland Trust, and she is on the Council of the Society of Authors. She has won numerous prizes for her books, including the Blue Peter Book Award, the Ruth Rendell Award for Championing Literacy, Gold Award in the Nestle Children's Book Prize, the Hay Festival Medal for Fiction, and Philosophy Now magazine's Award for Contributions in the Fight Against Stupidity.

She grew up in London and on a small, uninhabited island off the west coast of Scotland and she now lives in Hammersmith with her husband, three children and a dog called Pigeon.

WEB / SOCIAL MEDIA

Twitter (X): <https://x.com/CressidaCowell> | <https://x.com/hachetteKids>

Instagram: www.instagram.com/cressidacowellauthor/
www.instagram.com/hachettechildrens/

Facebook: www.facebook.com/cressidacowellbooks

Vivian French: Telling the Time with Anna

10.00am - 10.45am | Hawick Town Hall, Hawick | Nursery - P3 | £2 per pupil

IN-PERSON



EVENT DETAILS

It's TIME to have fun! It can be tricky learning how to tell the time; join Vivian French and find out how hours and minutes and seconds work with the help of her new book, and her ENORMOUS clock.

Make time shapes with your arms and legs, sing the time song... and check how long it takes to count sixty hippos and sixty hippopotamuses!

BIOGRAPHY

Vivian French has been writing stories for children for more than thirty years...and still loves it. When she's not writing, she teaches illustration at Edinburgh College of Art. She's also the co-founder of Picture Hooks, a project supporting emerging illustrators...she loves pictures too.

Nearly all her books (over 300, fiction and non-fiction) have pictures in them - they've won quite a few prizes.

Vivian is currently a Reading Ambassador for Scottish Book Trust. Why? Because she loves reading...and really REALLY wants children to love it too.

WEB / SOCIAL MEDIA

www.vivianfrench.co.uk

Instagram: www.instagram.com/vivianfrench75/



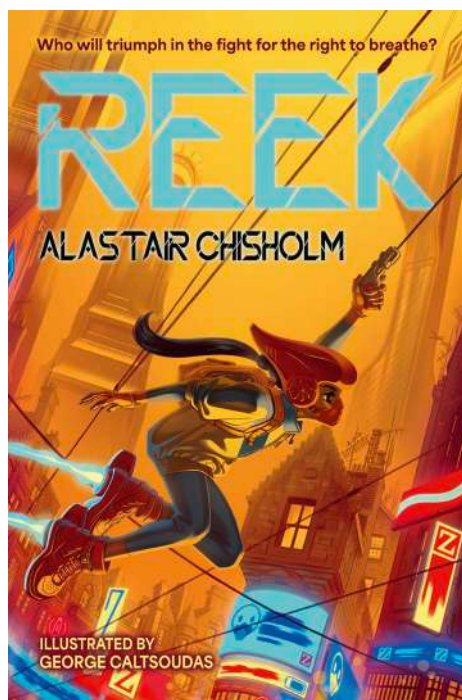
Invent the Future! with Alastair Chisholm

10.00am - 10.45am | Heart of Hawick, Hawick | P5 - P7 | £2 per pupil

IN-PERSON

LIVESTREAMED

WATCH ON-DEMAND



EVENT DETAILS

Join author Alastair Chisholm for his new book *Reek*, a sci-fi adventure set in a world of poisoned air, sinister tech billionaires, and a kick-ass hero!

Learn how inventions have transformed our world, test your knowledge of weird and wonderful technological marvels, meet Alastair's Inventor Assistant, become part of a human invention - and discover what may be the greatest invention of all...

BIOGRAPHY

Alastair Chisholm is the bestselling author of the sci-fi adventures *Orion Lost*, *Adam-2* and *The Consequence Girl*, as well as the fantasy *Dragon Storm* series. *Orion Lost* was shortlisted for the Waterstones Children's Book Prize, the James Reckitt Hull Children's Book Award, the Bibliobuzz Award, the Inspire ELS Book Awards and the 2021 Sakura Medal Award.

WEB / SOCIAL MEDIA

www.alastairc.com

Twitter (X): https://x.com/alastair_ch

Instagram: www.instagram.com/alastairchisholm

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

About Barrington Stoke books

Reek is published by Barrington Stoke who publish top-quality short novels by the UK's best writers. Their books are hi-lo (high interest, low ability), meaning the content is appropriate to the age of the reader but the text is edited to suit a lower reading age. This ensures that their books are accessible to all - as a quick engaging win for confident readers and a satisfying achievement for those who have to work harder.

For more information on their books, please visit:

www.barringtonstoke.co.uk



Supertato Silliness with Sue Hendra

11.30am - 12.15pm | Hawick Town Hall, Hawick | P1 - P3 | £2 per pupil

IN-PERSON



EVENT DETAILS

Join Sue Hendra, co-creator of the bestselling Supertato picture books, to celebrate the 10th Birthday of our favourite supermarket superhero.

If you're looking for fun and giggles galore, this veggie adventure-fest is the show for you.

There will be stories, silliness and everyone will get a chance to make their own veggie super-hero to take home!

BIOGRAPHY

Sue Hendra grew up in Wimbledon and has always loved making up stories and drawing pictures. Her favourite book as a child was *Mr Silly*.

She graduated from Brighton University in 1994 and has been creating picture books ever since. Sue loves swimming and can swim up and down for a very long time. Her favourite book is still *Mr Silly*.

WEB / SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook: www.facebook.com/supertatoandfriends

Twitter (X): <https://x.com/suehendra>

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

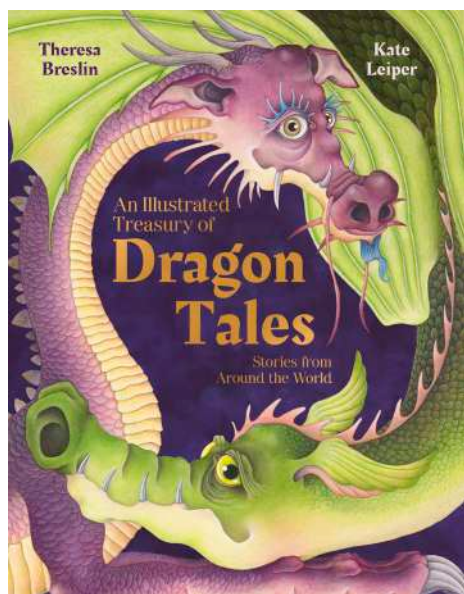
You can download the Supertato 10th Anniversary activity pack [HERE](#).



Dragon Tales from Across the World with Theresa Breslin

11.30am - 12.15pm | Hawick Town Hall, Hawick | P4 - P7 | £2 per pupil

IN-PERSON



EVENT DETAILS

From shape-shifting water dragons to sun-eating serpents - let imagination take flight and discover the dragons of the world!

Join Carnegie Medal-winning author Theresa Breslin to explore her latest book *An Illustrated Treasury of Dragon Tales*; a beautiful collection of some of the world's most captivating dragon legends for children, with jaw-dropping illustrations by Kate Leiper.

Expect fang-tastic tales, buried treasure, ancient heroes, underwater kingdoms, dragon princesses and much more!

BIOGRAPHY

Theresa Breslin O.B.E. is the popular, critically acclaimed author of over 50 books for children and young adults and winner of many literary prizes including the prestigious Carnegie Medal.

She lives near Glasgow, Scotland, is passionate about children's literature and literacy and is a regular visitor at book festivals and schools.

WEB / SOCIAL MEDIA

Twitter (X): <https://x.com/theresabreslin1>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/Theresabreslinauthor



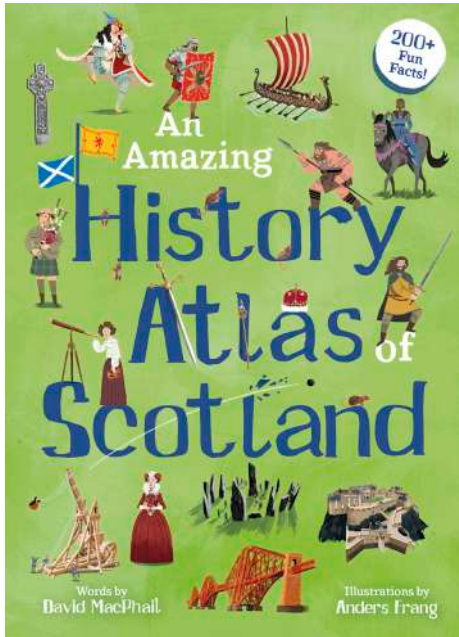
David Macphail's Journey Around Scotland

11.30am - 12.15pm | Heart of Hawick, Hawick | P3 - P5 | £2 per pupil

IN-PERSON

LIVESTREAMED

WATCH ON-DEMAND



EVENT DETAILS

Did you know that long ago Scotland was buried under a layer of ice one kilometre thick? That Orkney's neolithic village of Skara Brae is older than the Great Pyramid in Egypt? Or that, in order to take back Roxburgh Castle, Robert the Bruce's soldiers disguised themselves as cows? For these exciting facts and so many more, join David Macphail, author of *An Amazing History Atlas of Scotland* for this journey into Scotland's amazing past.

BIOGRAPHY

David Macphail has worked as a chicken wrangler, a ghost-tour guide, a waiter on a tropical island, and he now has the sensible job of writing about yetis, Vikings, and the funny side of history.

David is the author of the Lollies-nominated Thorfinn the Nicest Viking series, the Top-Secret Grandad series, the Velda the Awesomest Viking series, *An Amazing Illustrated Atlas of Scotland* and *An Amazing History Atlas of Scotland*. He lives in Perthshire, Scotland.

WEB / SOCIAL MEDIA

<https://dmmacphail.weebly.com/>

Twitter (X): <https://x.com/@DMMacphail1>

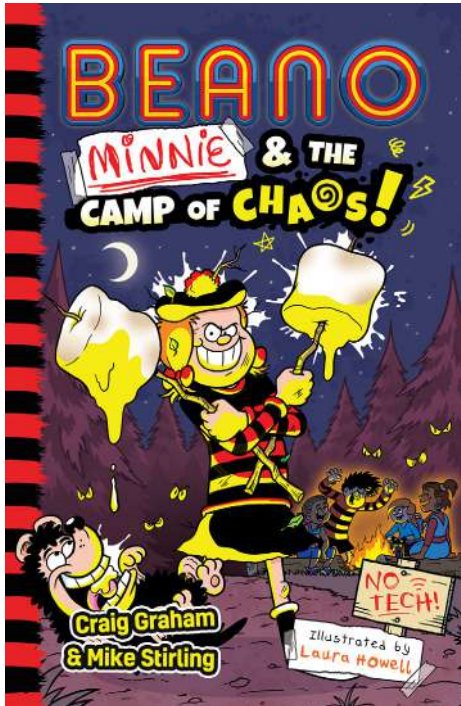
Instagram: www.instagram.com/hackenabush



Two Beano Ed's Make a Supersonic Beano Comic!

1.00pm - 1.45pm | Hawick Town Hall, Hawick | P4 - P7 | £2 per pupil

IN-PERSON



EVENT DETAILS

TWO BEANO ED'S NEED YOU!

Make a supersonic Beano comic*!

* In less than an hour... EEK!

The fastest and funniest Beano comic workshop ever!

Beano's Directors of Mischief and Mayhem, Mike Stirling and Craig Graham reveal their top tips for creating laugh-out-loud stories and pictures, share jokes from their latest Beano Boomie, *Minnie and the Camp of Chaos* AND attempt the impossible - to write AND draw a hilarious Beano comic as fast as possible!

They'll definitely need help, but that's where you - Scottish Borders' Creative Kids - come in!

BIOGRAPHY

Craig Graham and Mike Stirling were both born in Kirkcaldy, Fife, in the same vintage year when Dennis first became the cover star of Beano.

Ever since, they've been training to become the Brains Behind Beano Books (which is mostly making cool stuff for kids from words and funny pictures).

They've both been Beano Editors, but now Craig is Managing Editor and Mike is Editorial Director (ooh, fancy!) at Beano Studios.

WEB / SOCIAL MEDIA

www.beano.com/categories/boomies

Twitter (X): <https://x.com/BeanoOfficial?>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/BeanoOfficial/?locale=en_GB

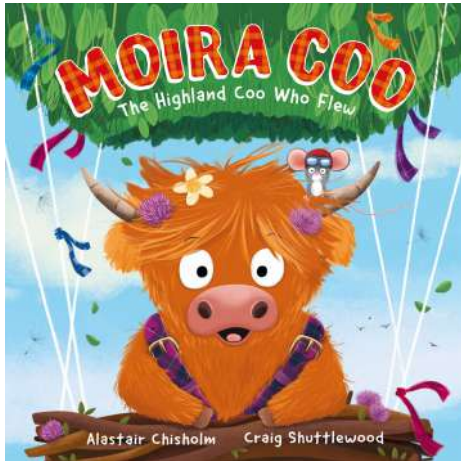
Instagram: www.instagram.com/beano_official/?hl=en



Moira Coo: The Highland Coo Who Flew with Alastair Chisholm

1.00pm - 1.45pm | Hawick Town Hall, Hawick | P1 - P3 | £2 per pupil

IN-PERSON



EVENT DETAILS

Join award-winning author Alastair Chisholm and meet Moira Coo, a highland cow with BIG dreams! Is she a racing driver? A surfer? A dancer? Or something even more amazing? And can her friend Wee Mouse help her live her dream? Then help Alastair invent more amazing adventures for Moira - and perhaps create some of your own!

BIOGRAPHY

Alastair Chisholm is the author of the sci-fi middle grade adventures, *Orion Lost*, shortlisted for the Waterstones Children's Book Prize, and *Adam-2*, which won the Blackwell's Children's Book of the Year.

Alastair's debut picture book, *The Prince and the Witch and the Thief and the Bears*, was shortlisted for Scottish Book Trust's Bookbug Prize, and *Inch and Grub* won Scottish Book Trust's Bookbug Prize and The Queen's Knickers Award.

Alastair lives in Edinburgh with his wife and family, and their cat Maudie.

WEB / SOCIAL MEDIA

www.alastair.com

Twitter (X): https://x.com/@alastair_ch

Instagram: www.instagram.com/alastairchisholm



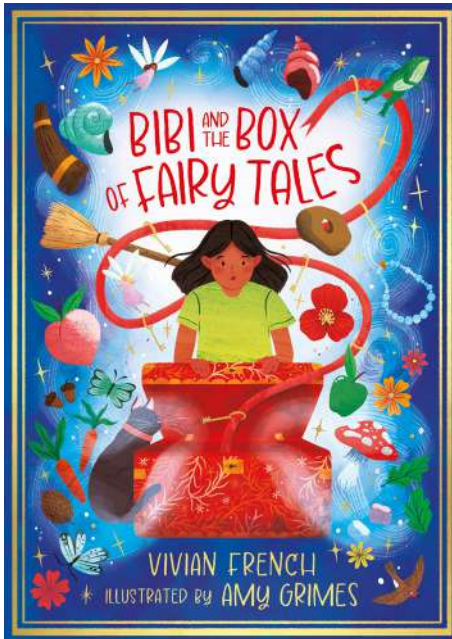
Bibi and the Box of Fairy Tales with Vivian French

1.00pm - 1.45pm | Heart of Hawick, Hawick | P3 - P5 | £2 per pupil

IN-PERSON

LIVESTREAMED

WATCH ON-DEMAND



EVENT DETAILS

Do you like fairy tales? Bibi doesn't... and she's shocked when she discovers a fairy godmother in the attic. Challenged to go on a magical journey, she meets a nervous giant, tricky fairies, spiteful water sprites, and a pink marshmallow eating witch.

Come and hear how and why Vivian wrote the seven different stories and help her create a brand-new fairy tale... oh, and learn the song of the hungry trolls! And maybe help her draw some pictures...

BIOGRAPHY

Vivian French has been writing stories for children for more than thirty years...and still loves it. When she's not writing, she teaches illustration at Edinburgh College of Art. She's also the co-founder of Picture Hooks, a project supporting emerging illustrators...she loves pictures too.

Nearly all her books (over 300, fiction and non-fiction) have pictures in them - they've won quite a few prizes.

Vivian is currently a Reading Ambassador for Scottish Book Trust. Why? Because she loves reading...and really REALLY wants children to love it too.

WEB / SOCIAL MEDIA

www.vivianfrench.co.uk

Instagram: www.instagram.com/vivianfrench75/



SECONDARY SCHOOLS EVENTS

Creating Connections: A Creative Writing Workshop with the Super Power Agency

10.00am - 12.00pm | S1 - S2 | Heart of Hawick, Hawick | £2 per pupil
12.30pm - 2.30pm | S3 - S5 | Heart of Hawick, Hawick | £2 per pupil

IN-PERSON



EVENT DETAILS

Join this creative writing workshop exploring poetry, performance and spoken word. Together with young people from other local high schools, you will have the chance to develop confidence in your own voice, write and perform poems that celebrate who you are.

Come and explore the ways in which the present moment can help you access your unique creativity and have a go experimenting with language.

Every participant will have the chance to see their work published in a pamphlet, celebrating a community of young voices!

ORGANISATION INFORMATION

The Super Power Agency exists to improve the lives and literacy skills of young people in Scotland. Through a range of creative writing workshops, interdisciplinary programming and mentoring, they work with those aged 8-18 in schools and community organisations to give young people the powers they need to close the attainment gap in education, foster aspiration, and become successful learners, confident individuals and responsible citizens.

Super Power Agency programmes provide opportunities for students to explore the potential of the written word, all while promoting aspiration and creativity, and strengthening valuable writing skills.

WEB / SOCIAL MEDIA

www.superpoweragency.com

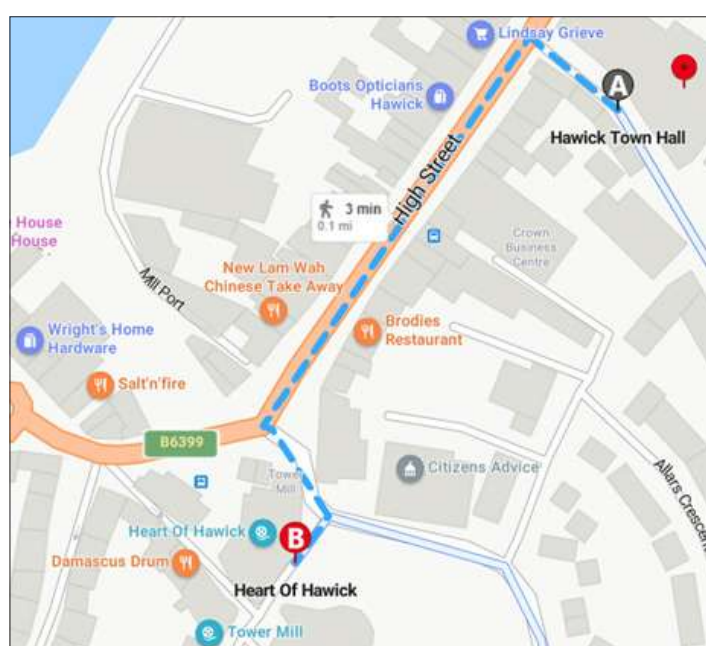


Additional Information

FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR TRANSPORT

If your class needs financial assistance to get to the Schools Day, you can apply to have up to 75% of your bus hire costs reimbursed. Please contact us at info@bordersbookfestival.org with details of an estimate of the cost. Funding is allocated based on economic need and geographical distance.

You will be notified soon after submitting your estimate if your application has been successful and how much of a subsidy you will receive. You will then book and pay for any necessary transport, and reimbursement of your transport fund allocation will be made after the Schools Day has taken place.



VENUE LOCATIONS AND HOW TO FIND THEM

Hawick Town Hall
High Street, Hawick
TD9 9EF

Heart of Hawick
Kirkstile, Hawick
TD9 0AE

Reaching venues on foot or by school transport:

- Venues are close to each other, with less than a five-minute walk door-to-door.
- Drop-off and pick-up information and locations for each venue will be provided at the time of booking for events.

BRINGING PUPILS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

If your pupils have special needs, you may need more information about author events and what a visit to the Schools Day would involve. We would be delighted to talk in more detail with you if you have any queries.

Please call 07909 333012, or email info@bordersbookfestival.org

EATING PACKED LUNCHES AND SNACKS

School parties are welcome to bring along snacks and packed lunches, to eat at venues between any events they are attending.

BOOK SIGNINGS

Free copies of books relating to the events will be given to all children attending in person. Authors will be signing copies of their books after their events – please factor this into your plans when booking to attend the Schools Day.

Keep in touch with the Borders Book Festival ONLINE



WEBSITE

www.bordersbookfestival.org



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www.facebook.com/bordersbookfestival



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<https://x.com/BordersBookFest>



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www.instagram.com/bordersbookfest



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www.tiktok.com/@bordersbookfestiv



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