

WIGTOWN SPRING BOOK WEEKEND

FRIDAY 3 – SUNDAY 5 MAY 2019



Organised by The Association of Wigtown Booksellers
www.wigtown-booktown.co.uk

WELCOME

A warm welcome to visitors and residents attending Wigtown's Spring Book Weekend – we hope you enjoy the varied events. Thank you to our speakers and each event host for giving up their time to make this weekend possible. We hope you'll stay awhile to browse the shops and bookshops, the cafes and restaurants and enjoy this May Bank Holiday weekend in Scotland's National Book Town.

Richard van der Voort, Chairman, Association of Wigtown Booksellers

FRIDAY 3 MAY

David Sumner

Debussy: The Scottish Connection

11.00am | The Old Bank Bookshop | By donation | Tickets from venue

The composer Claude Debussy admired two things from Scotland: whisky and Mary Garden, a soprano from Aberdeen. She created the role of Mélisande in Debussy's only completed opera *Pelléas et Mélisande*. David Sumner discusses Mary Garden's memoir, offering a fascinating insight into Debussy's love life.

Ruth Anderson

Husbands Beware

2.00pm | The Old Bank Bookshop | By donation | Tickets from venue

Following last year's talk, on murderous mothers, Ruth Anderson examines the character and fate of Clytemnestra, wife and killer of Agamemnon. Was she really a cold-blooded murderer - or simply provoked beyond endurance? Come and give your verdict on this fascinating woman.

Ian Patrick

The ABC of Being a Detective and Writing Fiction

6.30pm | The Old Bank Bookshop | By donation | Tickets from venue

Assume nothing; believe no one; and challenge everything. Ian Patrick spent 27 years investigating crime as a Detective Sergeant. His first book *Rubicon* has been optioned by the BBC for a six-part TV series. In this informal discussion, he explores how the 'ABC of being a Detective' correlates to the world of the writer.

Renita Boyle

Book at Bedtime

9.30pm | Well-Read Books of Wigtown | FREE | Tickets from 11 North Main St
Stories and hot chocolate.

SATURDAY 4 MAY

The Spring Kist and Tearoom

10.00am-4.00pm | County Buildings | FREE

Local and national producers and artisans showcase the best of Scotland's art, craft, food and drink with more than 25 unique stands to browse. The Spring Tearoom offers morning coffee, a light lunch or afternoon teas.

Amanda Sutherland

Wee McAsh

11.30am | Curly Tale Books | Family | FREE

Come along and create your own Wee McAsh using recycled materials. All art materials provided but if you want to bring along the tube from inside a toilet/kitchen roll that would be great. Suitable for all ages.

Ted Cowan

Dumfries & Galloway, People and Place: A New History

12 noon | Baptist Church | £5 | Tickets from The Old Bank Bookshop

What might Dumfries & Galloway and its people have been like from c1700-1914? Ted Cowan sheds some light. From the growth of towns and villages in Galloway to the smuggling trade, and from metal miners to the farming community and much more, this new book, which is released later this year, is an important first for our region.

Alvin Jackson

John Redmond, Edward Carson and Home Rule

2.00pm | The Old Bank Bookshop | £5 | Tickets from venue

John Redmond and Edward Carson remain two of the biggest and most controversial names in modern Irish and British history. Alvin Jackson's acclaimed new biography of the two men discusses their lives – and what each says about the union, its constitution, and the political cultures of the United Kingdom state.

Jean Edmiston & Susie Howie

Give Voice, Give Stories *[Part of Luminare Festival]*

2.00pm | The Print Room | FREE | Tickets from 11 North Main St

For the past five years, storytellers Jean Edmiston and Susie Howie have been working in care homes in Dumfries & Galloway. Join them to hear some favourite stories and experiences gathered through Wigtown Festival Company's Give Voice project. Folklore, fairy tales, poems, songs and stories of place await.

Kriss Nichol

Ancient Anchors

3.30pm | Sacred Heart Church | £6 | Tickets 11 North Main St

Prized anatomist to the Medici court in Florence, Niels Steensen's medical discoveries led him to ascertain the history of the earth's surfaces and develop the Four Principles of Stratification. In poetry and prose, Kriss Nichol tells of his spiritual struggle, ordination as a Catholic priest, death in poverty and beatification by Pope John Paul II. Renaissance music by members of The Galloway Consort and readings by David Sumner. *Supported by DG Unlimited.*

Renita Boyle

Legacy Letters: Leaving Behind What Matters Most *[Part of Luminare Festival]*

5pm | The Print Room | FREE | Tickets from 11 North Main St

Never mind the family china, pass on a legacy letter. Share your signature stories, wisdom, values, blessings, lessons, hopes, dreams, love and forgiveness with your family, friends, community and future generations. This 90-minute workshop will provide a basic understanding and framework for writing legacy letters as well as the tools and support you need to get started.

Des Dillon

Pignut & Nuncle: Jane Eyre Meets King Lear on the Stormbound Heath

6.30pm | Beltie Books & Café | FREE | Tickets from venue

In this tragicomic novel, Jane Eyre meets King Lear on the stormbound moor. Chaos and confusion ensue as each thinks the other mad. Can tragedy be averted? When the plan goes horribly wrong, can Jane, Lear and Fool find a way to save Cordelia's soul? Written in Shakespearean, Victorian and a futuristic Glaswegian English, this novel could be a difficult read.

The Bookshop Band

8.00pm | The Old Bank Bookshop | £8 | Tickets from venue

Formed in 2010, The Bookshop Band have taken their literary-inspired music across the globe and been commissioned by BBC Radio 3, the V&A Museum, the National Portrait Gallery and the Centre Pompidou, most recently writing songs for the launch of Philip Pullman's *The Book of Dust*. Enjoy their "achingly good" music on their home turf.

Renita Boyle

Book at Bedtime

9.30pm | Well-Read Books of Wigtown | FREE | Tickets from 11 North Main St

Bedtime tales with hot chocolate.

SUNDAY 5 MAY

The Spring Kist

10.00am-4.00pm | County Buildings | FREE

Art, craft, food and drink. See Saturday 10am-4pm.

Shalla Gray

Polystyrene Printing

11.30am | Curly Tale Books | Family | FREE

Author and illustrator Shalla Gray will be leading an informal workshop for over fives in printing using polystyrene tiles to create colourful images. All art materials provided.

Jack Hunter

Andrew Symson of Kirkiner: Hero or Villain?

2.00pm | The Old Bank Bookshop | By donation | Tickets from venue

Jack Hunter examines the enigma of Andrew Symson - an episcopalian minister in Kirkiner in the late seventeenth century. His *Large Description of Galloway* was the first comprehensive account of the Province. But enthusiasts of the Scottish Covenanting cause regard his memory with loathing. As clerk to the episcopalian Synod of Galloway he is claimed to occupy the Eichmann role in Hitler's "Final Solution" as one of the faceless bureaucrats whose work made the atrocities possible.

Mike Morley and Andrew Wilson

Gravestones of Wigtown

2.00pm | Wigtown Parish Church | FREE | Tickets from Beltie Books & Café

Local historian, and author of *Louis McGuffie VC, the Story of Wigtown's War Hero*, Mike Morley teams up with Galloway history fanatic and fellow Wigtown resident, Andrew Wilson, to talk about Wigtown's history as inspired by some of the gravestones in the old parish kirkyard.

Anne Dunford

From the Mountains to the Sea

3.30pm | The Pamela Hood Carter Room at ReadingLasses | By donation to Arthritis Research UK | Tickets from venue

Poetry and photographs celebrating the landscape of the Machars. Join Anne to see and hear a selection of those chosen for the book prior to the launch later this year.

Donna Brewster

Wigtown and the World

3.30pm | The Old Bank Bookshop | By donation | Tickets from venue

How can a small town, tucked away in an often-forgotten corner of Scotland, always seem connected with places, events and people all over the world? What is there about Wigtown that has always drawn people to come in their search for understanding of historical events, personal biographical information, or, while seeking a haven from the clamour of the outside world, caused them to discover rich depths beyond their expectations? Donna Brewster explores.

Bruce Keith

Bridgescapes

5.00pm | Beltie Books & Café | FREE | Tickets from venue

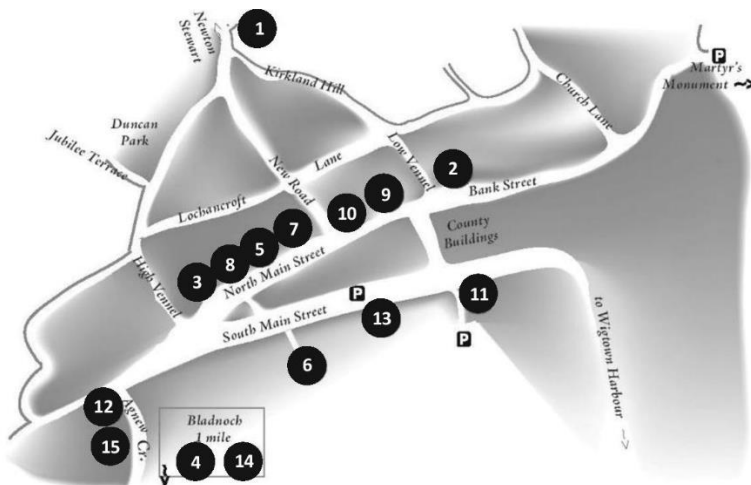
Published to coincide with the completion of the Queensferry Crossing over the Forth, *Bridgescapes* is aptly subtitled “a personal journey through history celebrating Scotland's bridge-building heritage”. With autobiographical touches, including the development of his passion for bridges from his father who was a local authority engineer responsible for bridges in the Highlands.

Newton Stewart Singers

Brahms – A German Requiem

7.30pm | Wigtown Parish Church | £10 | Tickets from members and at door

Newton Stewart Singers, conductor – Michael Appleford. Soloists – Soprano Nicola Junor and Baritone – Richard Lind. Accompanied by piano and instrumentalists from Classical Musicians Scotland.



WIGTOWN'S BOOKSHOPS AND BOOK BUSINESSES

1. At The Sign Of The Dragon

St Ninians, New Road, Wigtown
Tel 01988 403446
www.atthesignofthedragon.co.uk

2. Beltie Books & Café

6 Bank Street, Wigtown
Tel 01988 402730
www.beltiebooks.co.uk

3. The Book End Studio

23 North Main Street
Tel 01988 402403
www.juliehouston.co.uk

4. Bookrests

15 Main Street, Bladnoch
Tel 01988 402047

5. The Bookshop

17 North Main Street
Tel 01988 402499
www.the-bookshop.com

6. Byre Books

24 South Main Street
Tel 01988 402133
www.byrebooks.co.uk

7. Craigard Gallery

13 North Main Street, Wigtown
Tel 07903 044929

8. Curly Tale Books

18 North Main Street, Wigtown
Tel 01988 402896
www.curlytalebooks.co.uk

9. Faodail

7 North Main Street, Wigtown
Tel 07880 359943 or 07500 965565

10. Number 11

11 North Main Street, Wigtown
Tel 01988 402036
www.wigtownbookfestival.com

11. The Old Bank Bookshop

7 South Main Street, Wigtown
Tel 01988 402111
www.oldbankbookshop.co.uk

12. The Open Book

2 High Street, Wigtown
Tel 01988 402010
www.wigtownbookfestival.com

13. ReadingLasses Bookshop & Café

17 South Main Street, Wigtown
Tel 01988 403266

14. Webbooksuk.com Ltd

An internet business
Tel 01988 402190

15. Well-Read Books of Wigtown

1 Agnew Crescent, Wigtown
Tel 01988 402873

For full details visit:

www.wigtown-booktown.co.uk



ASSOCIATION OF
WIGTOWN
BOOKSELLERS

BUYING TICKETS

Tickets are available direct from event hosts. Book by telephone, email or in person using the information below for each Spring Weekend venue.

VENUES AND TICKETS

Beltie Books & Café, 6 Bank St

shop@beltiebooks.co.uk

01988 402730

The Old Bank Bookshop, 7 South Main St

oldbankbookshop@gmail.com

01988 402111

The Baptist Church, Southfield Lane

oldbankbookshop@gmail.com

Ted Cowan event

01988 402111

County Buildings, South Main St

mail@wigtownbookfestival.com

The Spring Kist

01988 403222

Curly Tale Books, 18 North Main St

mail@curlytalebooks.co.uk

01988 402896

The Pamela Hood Carter Room, ReadingLasses, 17 South Main St

readinglasses@hotmail.com

01988 403266

The Print Room, Wigtown Festival Company, 11 North Main St

mail@wigtownbookfestival.com

01988 403222

Sacred Heart Church, South Main Street

mail@wigtownbookfestival.com

Kriss Nichol event

01988 403222

Well-Read Books of Wigtown, 1 Agnew Crescent

mail@wigtownbookfestival.com

Book at Bedtime

01988 403222

Wigtown Parish Church, Bank Street