



Berwick Literary Festival 2023

Celebrating Words

Written | Spoken | Performed

12–15 October 2023

Sponsors

The Festival much appreciates the support of the businesses and organisations whose logo appears below: please support these and other town businesses during your visit and afterwards. We also acknowledge with thanks a number of private donors who have sponsored specific sessions but requested anonymity.

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Would you become a Patron?

The Festival is strongly supported by a group of Patrons who understand the benefit BLF brings to the town and its hinterland. New Patrons are always welcome: if you would like to see details of the scheme, of who is already a Patron and, we hope, join, please go to berwickliteraryfestival.com/patrons

Welcome to the 10th Berwick Literary Festival!

Whether you are a new or returning visitor I hope you will find our programme exciting, challenging, and entertaining. Where else must one choose between an archbishop and the Beatles' hairdresser?

When launched in 2014, nobody envisaged how the Festival would grow to include so wide a range of subjects and speakers, with an international perspective and speakers with global reputations, whilst supporting local writers and regional interests.

Our speaker programme includes Zoom events, so that audiences far away from Berwick can also enjoy sessions that speak to the world, and events in the town. For the first time it includes major productions in partnership with The Maltings. We have our popular workshops and tours, fiction and poetry, history, and humour. This Festival is volunteer-run, sponsored by local people and businesses to whom we are most grateful, and without large corporate funding. It is not an event to promote the latest bestsellers or celebrity authors but to hear writers with established reputations as well as emerging new voices.

Please visit our website for details of the charitable events the Festival supports, thanks to its Patrons, sponsors, and ticket sales: the **enrichment events** organised for the area's **schools**, **young people's events** in the Library, **poetry reading in care homes**, and with the Rotary Club, the **schools short-story competition**. None of this would be possible without your support from ticket sales. The increased costs of rewarding our speakers fairly and running the Festival have meant a rise in ticket prices, but we remain convinced that you will be amused, informed, and enlightened by our most exciting programme yet.

I look forward to your visit to Berwick in October, whether online or in person; and when you're here, do explore our fascinating walled town.

Michael Gallico Festival Director



Sound Within Sound • Kate Molleson

Wednesday 11 October, 6:30pm

Berwick Baptist Church • £8

Kate Molleson is a journalist, music critic and BBC Radio 3 presenter. She is the author of the best-selling book *Sound Within Sound: Opening Our Ears to the Twentieth Century*, that introduces the life and work of ten lesser-known composers of that period. This event is organised by Berwick Music Series and will be hosted by Mike Worboys. Tickets available from berwickmusic.org.

“

Molleson's enthusiastic style and eye for character and place give them life” *The Observer*



Cabaret of Words

Wednesday 11 October, 7 for 7:30pm

Coxon & Coxon • Free but booking essential

Come along and listen to local writers, poets and performers sharing their creative efforts. This is a friendly, informal event where contributors can read or perform their original poetry or other writing. We also have space for some singing (solo or duo, unplugged). Songs, original or covers, should celebrate fine words. You will be able to relax with drinks while you enjoy the performance. To take part in this event, you must book a ten-minute slot in advance at blfcabaret@gmail.com.



Martins The Tours • Martins The Printers

Thursday 12 and Friday 13 October

9am, 10am & 11am (11am tours have wheelchair access)

Martins The Printers, Spittal • £8

Martins the Printers is an independent family-owned book printers, which has been operating from Berwick-upon-Tweed since 1892. In the beginning, Martins was a general commercial printer with its own local newspaper *The Mercury*, produced until 1945. In the 1950s the company started to concentrate on book publishing and has remained dedicated to book printing ever since. Today Martins is one of the few remaining book printers and binders left in the UK. The event includes a tour round the working factory.

Poetry Writing Workshop:

Little Poems with Big Hearts • Anne Ryland

Thursday 12 October, 10am–12:30pm

YHA, Dewars Lane • £18

How can we create short poems that are as surprising, resonant and mysterious as longer poems? Little doesn't necessarily mean light. A miniature structure teaches us much about the writer's craft: distilled words and lines have the power to evoke a drama or a universe. Playing with rhyme and syllable count, we will explore lesser-known forms such as cinquain, triolet and tanka, and we will write poem-fragments to be gathered into a collage. The session includes private writing time and optional sharing of work produced.



Why Read In a Digital Age? • Will Self

Thursday 12 October, 11am–12 noon

Zoom • £5

Novelist and journalist Will Self discusses the impact of the web, the internet, social media and the handheld computer (also known as a 'phone') on the practice of reading in the 21st century. Drawing on his book *Why Read: Selected Writings 2001–2021*, he'll present a complex picture of discontinuous adaptation to new media, and interrogate whether the transition is a gain overall for the human psyche and its societies ... or a net loss. Suitable for high school students. The event is given in memory of Simon Heald.



Prose Writing Workshop:

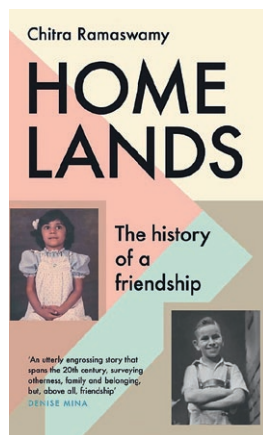
Dialogue and Actions • Tom Murray

Thursday 12 October, 1:30pm–3:30pm

YHA, Dewars Lane • £18

Dialogue is multi-purpose. It is dynamic and energetic and plays a vital part in driving the narrative forward with clarity and pace. It is one of the best ways to drip feed narrative information to the reader. It can reveal what a character feels, or disguise what they don't wish revealed! In this workshop we'll explore various techniques in making dialogue dynamic, and realistic to the character speaking; it will examine how it works alongside other story elements such as exposition. For the beginner or the more experienced writer.





Tales of Friendship, Family, History and Homelands • Chitra Ramaswamy

Thursday 12 October, 2pm–3pm
Zoom • £5

Chitra Ramaswamy is an Edinburgh-based journalist and author. Her latest book *Homelands: The History of a Friendship* won the Saltire Non-Fiction Book of the Year and was included in *The Guardian's* top memoirs and biographies of 2022. A work of creative non-fiction, the book explores Chitra's friendship with a 99-year-old German Jewish refugee called Henry Wuga and has been praised by Denise Mina as 'an utterly engrossing story that spans the twentieth century'. Chitra writes for *The Guardian* and broadcasts for BBC radio.



River Spirit • Leila Aboulela

Thursday 12 October, 5pm–6pm
Zoom • £5

Leila Aboulela's sixth novel, *River Spirit*, was described by *The New York Times* as 'Dazzling ... a novel of war, love, faith, womanhood and – crucially – the tussle over truth and public narratives'. It is the unforgettable story of a people who, against all odds and for a brief time, gained independence from foreign rule. Leila will talk about the inspiration for her novel and what history can tell us about the recent conflict in Sudan. Leila grew up in the Sudan and now lives in Scotland.

Could you volunteer?

BLF is organised by a hard-working team of unpaid volunteers, supported by our administrator. This team plans the speaker programme, the schools events, and the publicity; organises the details of the venues and door stewards; and manages all those technical details without which nothing would run. We are very thankful for all their work; but inevitably people do move on, so we are always glad to receive new offers of help. Please contact us through the website:

berwickliteraryfestival.com

Dystopia versus Reality, and Where the Two Worlds Meet

Rachelle Atalla, Amanda Block & Daniel Shand
Friday 13 October, 10:30am–12 noon
Berwick Baptist Church • £8

How far are we from a dystopia? Join award-winning authors Rachelle Atalla (*Thirsty Animals*, *The Pharmacist*) and Daniel Shand (*Model Citizens*, *Crocodile*), as they discuss the inspiration behind their latest novels, the recent resurgence in dystopian fiction and their approaches to writing in conversation with author Amanda Block. This event is kindly sponsored by Longridge Towers School and is also suitable for high school students.

Rachelle Atalla is an award-winning Scottish-Egyptian novelist, short story writer and screenwriter based in Glasgow. *Thirsty Animals* is her climate-focused second novel.

Amanda Block is a writer and editor based in Edinburgh. Her bestselling debut novel, *The Lost Storyteller* was named Waterstones' Scottish Book of the Month.

Daniel Shand is the author of *Fallow*, *Crocodile* and his most recent novel *Model Citizens*. Daniel has taught creative writing at Edinburgh Napier University.



Nine Arches Press: The Poetry of Place, Nature & Grief

David Clarke, Isobel Dixon & Ian Humphreys
Friday 13 October, 11am–12 noon
Zoom • £5

Our relationship to the natural world deepened during the pandemic – yet there couldn't be a more critical time for the environment. Ian Humphreys, Isobel Dixon and David Clarke read live from poetry that explores beauty, loss, grieving, and how nature, place and landscapes shape our understanding of ourselves.

The Field in Winter, the third collection by **David Clarke**, reflects on memory, time, and the particular landscape of loss, in a calendar of poems. **Isobel Dixon's** *A Whistling of Birds* had its initial impetus in a response to D.H. Lawrence's *Birds, Beasts and Flowers*, but is a wider exploration of nature and creativity. 'I can't face the big stuff so I comb the moors for a tiny yellow flower' – so begins *Tormentil*, the second collection by **Ian Humphreys**, set largely in the starkly beautiful West Yorkshire moorlands.





Star of the Sea: Writing Your Family History

Katharine Tiernan & Linda Bankier

Friday 13 October, 2pm–4pm

Berwick Parish Centre • £8

Have you ever wanted to bring the hidden stories of your family to life? In this session, Berwick archivist Linda Bankier and historical novelist Katharine Tiernan will be looking at ways of bringing family history to life. The session will focus both on practical resources for exploring your family's history and on how to make creative use of your material. Katharine will read from her novel, *Star of the Sea*, based on her research into the 18th century history of her family, and Linda will end the session with a visit to the Berwick archives.

Katharine Tiernan is a novelist. A Northumbrian by birth, she draws inspiration from its history and landscape. *Star of the Sea* is her fourth novel set in the North East.

Linda Bankier has spent all her professional career working in Northumberland, since 1990 running the Berwick-upon-Tweed Record Office.



Writing Japan • Nick Bradley

Friday 13 October, 4pm–5pm

Zoom • £5

Nick Bradley's beautifully crafted new novel, *Four Seasons in Japan* is set in rural Onomichi, Hiroshima prefecture. It tells the tale of Flo, a despondent American translator living in Tokyo, who finds a mysterious book on the subway and embarks on a year-long journey translating it into English.

Nick will talk about his time living and working in Japan and how these experiences inform his writing to communicate the nuances of Japanese life, family, and culture. If you love cats, you will delight in Nick's books.

“

A postmodern riddle while also making for an emotionally engaging story ... there's something here for everyone”

The Times



Polly Toynbee in Conversation

Friday 13 October, 7:30pm

The Maltings • £12/10

Polly Toynbee is a journalist, author and broadcaster. She is also a member of a remarkable family, many of whom have had a profound effect upon our society over many decades. In her searingly honest portrait *An Uneasy Inheritance: My Family and Other Radicals*, the *Guardian* columnist examines their legacy, which includes her writer and communist father Philip and such famous names as Nancy Mitford and philosopher Bertrand Russell. Polly is in conversation with journalist Gerry Foley. Presented in association with *The Maltings*.



Who Gets Believed?

When the Truth Isn't Enough • Dina Nayeri

Saturday 14 October, 10am–11am

Berwick Parish Centre • £8

Dina Nayeri, the prizewinning author of *The Ungrateful Refugee*, investigates the unspoken social codes that determine how we relate to one another in her recent book *Who Gets Believed?* Dina takes a look into emergency rooms, corporate boardrooms, classrooms, asylum interviews and her own family, to ask – where lies the difference between being believed and being dismissed? She was born in Iran and currently lives in Scotland, where she teaches at the University of St Andrews.



Under The Ice • Katrina Porteous

Saturday 14 October, 10am–11am

Berwick Baptist Church • £8

Beneath Antarctica's frozen surface lie vast mountains, valleys, lakes and volcanoes. This new audio-visual collaboration between poet, composer and scientists from Northumbria University takes the listener on a journey to an unseen world, exploring its implications for the climate. Katrina's latest book, *Edge*, extends her previous work on nature, place and time beyond the human scale. *Under the Ice* includes a brief introduction for the non-scientist, stunning satellite images, poetry by Katrina and electronic music by Peter Zinovieff. Age recommendation 12+.





Adventure Babies Sensory Story Time

Saturday 14 October, 10:30–11:30am & 12 noon–1pm
Berwick Library • Free but booking essential

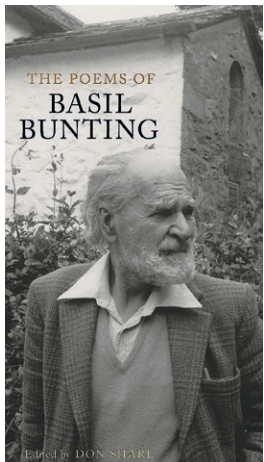
Join Ashleigh from Adventure Babies as she brings *Rockpool School*, an Adventure Babies original story, to life using a unique blend of puppets, props and songs. After the story, enjoy some sensory play with your little one, including messy play and a dark den with beautiful lights. The session ends with calming parachute time, using handmade bespoke parachutes. Perfect for 0–5s. Free but booking essential. Children must be accompanied by an adult.



The Eagle and the Bear: A New History of Roman Scotland • John Reid

Saturday 14 October, 12 noon–1pm
The Guildhall • £8

John Reid has been the chair of Trimontium Trust since 1996, leading the Trust's archaeological programme for the last two decades, and has a lifelong interest in the Roman Army in Scotland. This richly illustrated new book explores the complex, often tumultuous, and frequently brutal interaction between the world's first superpower and the peoples who would ultimately form the country we now call Scotland. *Sponsored by Border Archaeological Society; chair, Lindsay Allason-Jones.*



Basil Bunting: 'the most significant Northumbrian writer since Bede'

Mike Fraser

Saturday 14 October, 12 noon–1pm
Berwick Parish Centre • £8

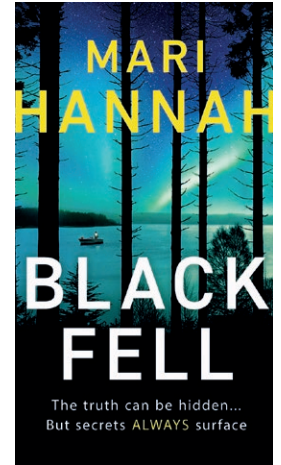
In 1964, having been a conscientious objector, wing commander, diplomat, spy and minor poet, best known for being friends with Ezra Pound, Bunting was working at a Newcastle newspaper when a meeting with a young poetry enthusiast led him to write *Briggflats*. The Beatles loved the poem and Mark Knopfler wrote *Basil* about him. Subsequently Bunting sought out the dedicatee, his first love, much to the consternation of his wife. Mike will discuss this Northumbrian's extraordinary life. This event is in association with Berwick Educational Association.

Kielder's Dark Sky Meets the Land of the Midnight Sun • Mari Hannah

Saturday 14 October, 12 noon–1pm
Berwick Baptist Church • £8

A group of Icelandic students are camping on the shores of Kielder Water, unaware that their lives are about to take a sinister turn, dragging them into a double murder investigation that detectives Stone and Oliver must solve. This gripping thriller takes them to Westfjords, revealing secrets that were bound to surface ... eventually.

In an interview, Mari will discuss her new novel *Black Fell*. Mari is a multi-award winning author and screenwriter and lives in a small Northumberland village, with her partner, a former murder detective.



Maureen Fry and the Angel of the North

Rachel Joyce

Saturday 14 October, 2pm–3pm
The Guildhall • £8

Award-winning author Rachel Joyce will talk about closing her much-loved trilogy with the viewpoint of Maureen Fry and why she took her on the same iconic journey husband Harold Fry trod many years before her.

“

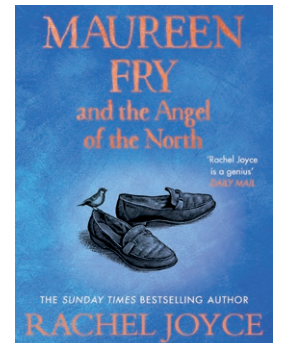
A beautiful novella about motherhood, grief and the power of forgiveness ... portrayed with compassion and tenderness, the novel's conclusion is deeply moving and life-affirming”

Hannah Beckerman *The Observer*

Rachel's novels have sold over 5 million copies worldwide in thirty-six languages. *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry* is now a major film starring Jim Broadbent and Penelope Wilton, for which Rachel also wrote the screenplay.

Rachel has also written over twenty original afternoon plays and adaptations of the classics for BBC Radio 4, including *Henry James* and all the Brontë novels.

This event is generously sponsored by Simpsons Malt.





Bloodaxe Poetry: Marjorie Lotfi, Kris Johnson and Yvonne Reddick

Saturday 14 October 2pm–3:15pm
Berwick Parish Centre • £8

Hosted by editor Neil Astley, Berwick's annual Bloodaxe poetry event features three poets reading from debut collections out this year from Bloodaxe – all relating to home, family and dislocation as well as our relationship with the threatened natural world. Bloodaxe Books was founded in Newcastle in 1978 and has revolutionised poetry publishing in Britain over four decades.

Kris Johnson grew up in America's Washington state and moved to the UK in 2007. Her first book-length collection *Ghost River* was published by Bloodaxe Books in 2023.

Marjorie Lotfi's award-winning debut collection *The Wrong Person to Ask* is a meditation on home. Marjorie was born in New Orleans, moved to Tehran as a baby and now lives in Scotland.

Yvonne Reddick will read poems from her new book *Burning Season*. Born in Glasgow in 1986, Yvonne is an award-winning writer, editor, ecopoetry scholar and climber.



The Real and The Romantic: **English Art Between Two World Wars**

Frances Spalding

Saturday 14 October, 2pm–3pm
Berwick Baptist Church • £8

In *The Real and the Romantic* Frances' thematic approach emphasises the networks of connection between British artists, illuminating the intriguing alliances and shifts in artistic sensibility that fed into the creativity of these years.

Between 2000 and 2015, Frances taught at Newcastle University, becoming Professor of Art History and is now Emeritus Fellow of Clare Hall, Cambridge. She was made a CBE in 2005 for Services to Literature.

“Frances Spalding's beautifully illustrated history reveals the hidden undercurrents that electrified the work of 1920s and 1930s artists”

Stephen Smith *Financial Times*

THE REAL AND THE ROMANTIC

ENGLISH ART BETWEEN
TWO WORLD WARS
FRANCES SPALDING



How to Write an Interactive Game

David Spain

Saturday 14 October, 2pm–4pm
Berwick Library • Free but booking essential

Every computer game needs a writer (or writers) to create the world that gamers enter when they play. In this workshop, David Spain will examine the techniques used to develop compelling interactive narratives and point out the pitfalls that this type of media can present. David is the author of *Paranormal Preparatory School*, an interactive story in which gamers embark on a quest to make peace between vampires and werewolves and close the portal to Hell. Age recommendation 15+

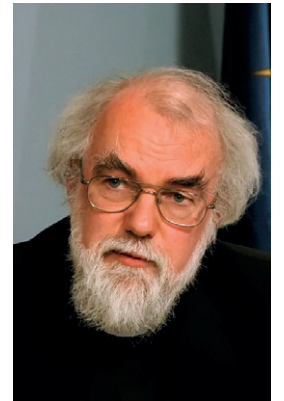


Religious Poetry Today –

Where Should We Look? • Rowan Williams

Saturday 14 October, 4pm–5pm
Berwick Baptist Church • £8

Former Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams is both one of the most respected theologians of our time and a significant poet. He has previously commented that through poetry he made 'a discovery of the holy ... which makes you silent and sometimes makes you laugh and which, above all, makes the landscape different once and for all'. Rowan will be talking about his recent anthology, *A Century of Poetry: One Hundred Poems that Search the Heart*. This event is offered in celebration of the life of Professor Michael Wright.

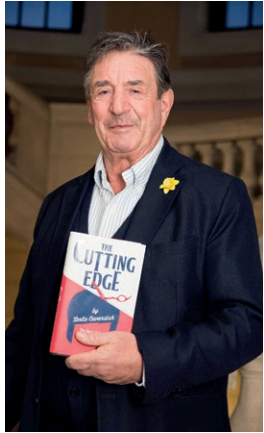


Sepulchre Street • Martin Edwards

Saturday 14 October, 4pm–5pm
Berwick Parish Centre • £8

Martin Edwards will be discussing his career as a crime novelist, editor, anthologist and historian of the genre. Author of histories *The Life of Crime* and *The Golden Age of Murder*, Martin has also published 23 novels, the latest of which is *Sepulchre Street*, set in the 1930s and featuring Rachel Savernake. Described by Richard Osman as 'A true master of British crime writing', his awards include the CWA Diamond Dagger, the highest honour in UK crime writing. Martin is President of the Detection Club and consultant to the bestselling British Library Crime Classics.





There Are Places I Remember

Leslie Cavendish

Saturday 14 October, 4pm–5pm

The Guildhall • £8

Leslie Cavendish left school at 15 years old without any artistic qualifications to become a hairdresser. He worked for the iconic hair stylist Vidal Sassoon and his clients included stars of the day such as Keith Moon, James Taylor and many others. In late 1966, Leslie began cutting Paul McCartney's hair at his home in St. John's Wood. Eventually, he styled the other three Beatles as well and became part of their inner circle. Leslie will be in conversation with Madeleine Ravetta, whose babysitter was none other than Paul McCartney.

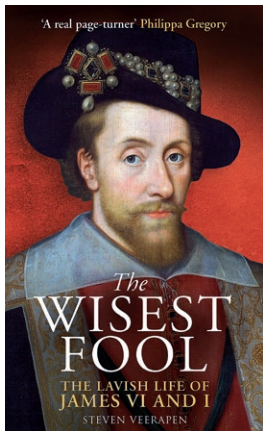


Let The Light Pour In • Lemn Sissay

Saturday 14 October, 7:30pm

The Maltings • £15

A new book of poetry by one of our foremost living poets is enough to activate any taste buds. When that poet is Lemn Sissay, and he is appearing in person to tell us about his life and his poetry, it is a rare privilege and opportunity. Lemn Sissay reads from his bestseller, *My Name is Why* as well as poems from his new collection *Let the Light Pour In*. Lemn Sissay OBE was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature in 2022. Age recommendation 16+. Presented in association with The Maltings.



Disunited Kingdoms: Rediscovering the Life and Reign of King James VI and I

Steven Veerapen

Sunday 15 October, 10am–11am

The Guildhall • £8

Steven Veerapen's new biography *The Wisest Fool: The Lavish Life of James VI and I* sheds light on the life and reign of the first Stuart king of England. James' life is laid bare and it rescues the much-mocked sovereign from the poisonous pens of his critics and explores him as he was known in his own time: as an idealistic family man with a fatal weakness for luxury and handsome favourites. Steven was born in Glasgow and raised in Paisley. He teaches English Literature at the University of Strathclyde and writes historical fiction.

1945: Victory in The West

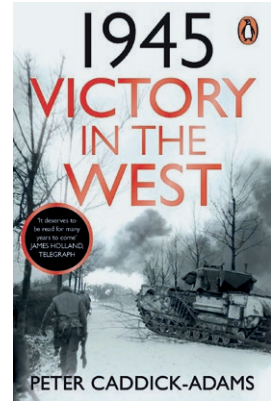
Peter Caddick-Adams

Sunday 15 October • 12 noon–1pm

The Guildhall • £8

March 1945. Allied troops are poised to cross the Rhine and sweep on into Germany. Victory is at last within their grasp, but if they believe that victory can be easily won, they face swift disillusionment. This is the extraordinary and gripping story of the final 100 days of the Second World War.

Peter Caddick-Adams is a writer and broadcaster who spent thirty-five years as an officer in the British Army and has extensive experience of war zones that include Bosnia, Iraq and Afghanistan.

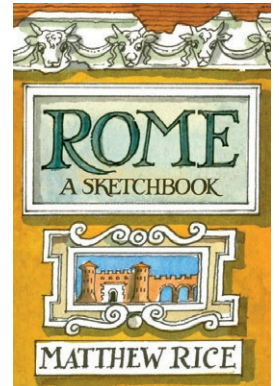


Rome: A Sketchbook • Matthew Rice

Sunday 15 October, 1pm–2pm

Berwick Baptist Church • £8

Matthew Rice is a long-time observer and illustrator of cities, buildings and all those who inhabit them, with an uncanny ability to express the energy of a place through a few lines of ink and splashes of paint. *Rome: A Sketchbook* combines enchanting watercolour illustrations with an informed, personal and witty text, and promises to delight all visitors to Rome, armchair or actual. He is perhaps best known for his long-standing collaboration with the potter Emma Bridgewater. *This event is supported by Paton & Co. estate agents.*



Colonialism: How Should We Judge It?

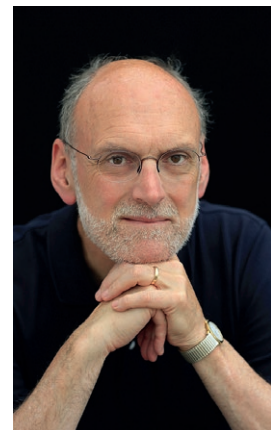
Nigel Biggar

Sunday 15 October, 2pm–3pm

The Guildhall • £8

Described by Matthew Parris as 'A view of history that one set of modern voices will find outrageous, another considers obvious and reasonable', Nigel Biggar's bestselling book *Colonialism: A Moral Reckoning*, was cancelled by the original publisher but was then rescued by William Collins.

In conversation, Nigel will outline the book's main argument and show how it undermines one of the main assumptions of the 'decolonising' movement and the case for reparations for slavery. *This event is sponsored in memory of our Patron Professor Alan Raybould.*





A Feast On Scotland Street

Alexander McCall-Smith and Anna Marshall

Sunday 15 October, 2pm

The Maltings • £12

We welcome the return of **Alexander McCall Smith**, one of the world's most prolific and popular authors, whose *The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency* alone has sold 25 million copies in English and been translated into 46 languages. This year we will gain an insight into *The Stellar Debut of Galactica McFee*, the 17th volume of *44 Scotland Street* (the world's longest-running serial novel) due in November 2023.

Anna Marshall has been Alexander's publicist for 13 years and has a deep knowledge of the *Scotland Street* series and its characters. Anna's *The 44 Scotland Street Cookbook* gives fans the chance to eat like their favourite characters, enjoying Bertie's much-loved Panforte di Siena and Big Lou's 'off the record' bacon rolls.

Join Alexander and Anna as they discuss their writing and immerse yourself in New Town Edinburgh and the latest goings-on of its much-loved residents. Enjoy a memorable afternoon with a writer, as one reviewer said, 'whose optimism and grace give you hope for the world'. *Presented in association with The Maltings.*



Reiving and Scottish Reformation Novels

Andrew Greig

Sunday 15 October, 3:15pm–4:15pm

Berwick Baptist Church • £8

The 16th century was a time of political upheaval, uncertainty and instability, a divided society with a plummeting economy. Despite this, the young people at its heart are witty, sardonic, even light-hearted as they struggle to survive, do well, and fall in love. Prolific Scottish author Andrew Greig will be talking about and reading from *Rose Nicolson*, an adventure set in the early days of the Scottish Reformation in St Andrews, Edinburgh and the Borders. Andrew has written on mountaineering and published nine collections of poetry: *Rose Nicolson* is his eighth novel.

“

Greig writes with rare authority and understanding”

The Scotsman

The Life of Music: Past, Present and Future

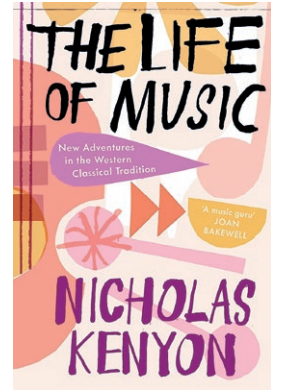
Nicholas Kenyon

Sunday 15 October, 4pm–5:30pm

The Guildhall • £8

Nicholas Kenyon, former Controller of BBC Radio 3, Director of the BBC Proms, and Managing Director of the Barbican Centre, talks about the world of classical music today, the impact of the pandemic, and how we can look to the past for possible models for the future in times of economic challenge.

Following Nicholas' presentation, he will be joined by three people with extensive knowledge of the arts scene in a discussion of the future of live arts provision, chaired by **Martin Parker**, composer and Head of Music at The University of Edinburgh. **Liz Robertson** began performing at a young age with the BBC's Young Generation and has starred in many much-loved West End musicals. **John Morrison** taught at Aberdeen University for 31 years, latterly as Professor of Art History and has published frequently, including a biography of his father, the renowned Scottish landscape painter James Morrison.



An Evening with Karine Polwart

Sunday 15 October, 7:30pm

The Maltings • £20

To close the festival, we are privileged to welcome Karine Polwart, the multi-award-winning Scottish songwriter, folk singer, and storyteller. Her songs evoke a richness of place, hidden histories, scientific curiosity, and folklore, and she promises us a night to remember as she talks about her life, her passions and her music, and performs some of her favourite songs. This is a rare chance to enjoy Karine in a conversational solo performance. Truly an event not to miss. *Presented in association with The Maltings.*

“

A glorious singer, enquiring songwriter
and enlightened mind” **MOJO**



BOOK YOUR TICKETS: berwicklitfest.eventbrite.co.uk

Our Venues

In the spirit of involving the town we use a variety of venues for different events. All are accessible for the disabled although arrangements must be made in advance with the custodian of the Guildhall (01289 330900). Warm thanks are given to all our hosts.

Berwick Baptist Church
8 Golden Square, TD15 1BG

Berwick Library
Walkergate, TD15 1DB

Berwick Parish Church Centre
Parade, TD15 1DF

Coxon & Coxon
22 Bridge Street, TD15 1AQ

The Guildhall
Marygate, TD15 1BN

The Maltings
Eastern Lane, TD15 1AJ

Martins the Printers
Seaview Works
Main St, Spittal, TD15 1RS

YHA The Granary
Dewars Lane, TD15 1HJ



@berwicklitfest #berwicklitfest



How to Book

Click on each event title to book online.

Most events are booked via the Festival's EventBrite site:
berwicklitfest.eventbrite.co.uk

Maltings events

Tickets for the four events at The Maltings can only be booked via The Maltings Box Office in person, by phone (01289 330999) or at maltingsberwick.co.uk.

Kate Molleson event

Book via Berwick Music Series:
berwickmusic.org

Zoom Events

After booking via EventBrite the Zoom link will be emailed to you.

Festival 'Box Office' @ Corner House Café,

31 Church Street, TD15 1EE
We shall be selling (non-Maltings) tickets in the Corner House Café on:
**Sat 16 – Sun 17 September &
Sat 14 – Sun 15 October, 10am – 4pm**

Note: Tickets may be available on the door at each event but advance booking is strongly recommended. Although the Cabaret of Words and the events in the Library on Sat 14 October are free, spaces need to be reserved to ensure we do not exceed capacity.

Festival refund policy: in the event that an event is cancelled refunds will be offered, but no other exchanges or refunds are available. The Maltings has its own policy.

More Information

Bookselling

All books discussed will be for sale and author signing at each event and at our supportive bookseller **Grieve's the Stationers**, Church Street, Berwick TD15 1EG

Away from Berwick we encourage you to support the independent booksellers listed on our website.

visitberwick.com

for more information about our town, where to park, where to eat and stay, and events locally, please visit this website.
visitberwick.com

Enrichment Activity

Schools

As part of the Festival's charitable remit we organise a programme of free enrichment activities to all schools in the Berwick Partnership, in town and country, and events in the Library on Saturday 14 October. In 2022 around 800 young people took part in this programme, which is described on our website. This is funded by our Patrons, sponsors and any surplus from ticket sales.

Care Homes

This autumn we are also restarting our programme of poetry reading by volunteers in care homes at the invitation of their activity coordinators.

Contact Us

Berwick Literary Festival
Berwick Community Trust,
56-58 Castlegate,
Berwick-upon-Tweed,
Northumberland TD15 1JT

info@berwickliteraryfestival.com
berwickliteraryfestival.com



@berwicklitfest #berwicklitfest

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We may need to change details due to
circumstances beyond our control and
will try to advise ticket holders as soon
as possible.

Tidekettle Papermaking Demonstrations

Saturday 14 October
10:30–11:30 am & 2pm–3pm

Tidekettle Paper
16 Bridge Street TD15 1AQ

In a whistlestop tour through the history
of papermaking from its origins in East
Asia to the state-of-the-art teabag
machine at Chirnside papermill, Lucy
Baxandall will demonstrate Western and
Eastern hand papermaking processes
and bust a few paper myths along the
way. You'll never take paper for granted
again, and there might even be some
samples to take home!

Contact Lucy for further details and to
reserve a place at lucybaxandall.com.
Free of charge but booking essential,
max.10 people per session. Shop is
wheelchair accessible.



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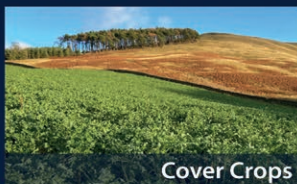
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FESTIVAL DIARY

WED	6:30pm	Berwick Baptist Church	Kate Molleson
11 OCT	7:30pm	Coxon & Coxon	Cabaret of Words
THU	9am, 10am, 11am	Martins the Printers	Martins the Tour
12 OCT	10am	YHA	Poetry Workshop
	11am	Zoom	Will Self
	1:30pm	YHA	Prose Workshop
	2pm	Zoom	Chitra Ramaswamy
	5pm	Zoom	Leila Aboulela
FRI	9am, 10am, 11am	Martins the Printers	Martins the Tour
13 OCT	10:30am	Berwick Baptist Church	Dystopian Novelists
	11am	Zoom	Nine Arches Poets
	2pm	Parish Centre	Tiernan & Bankier
	4pm	Zoom	Nick Bradley
	7:30pm	The Maltings	Polly Toynbee
SAT	10am	Berwick Baptist Church	Katrina Porteous
14 OCT	10am	Parish Centre	Dina Nayeri
	10:30am	Library	Adventure Babies
	12 noon	Guildhall	John Reid
	12 noon	Berwick Baptist Church	Mari Hannah
	12 noon	Parish Centre	Mike Fraser
	12 noon	Library	Adventure Babies
	2pm	Guildhall	Rachel Joyce
	2pm	Berwick Baptist Church	Frances Spalding
	2pm	Parish Centre	Bloodaxe Poets
	2pm	Library	Games Writing
	4pm	Guildhall	Leslie Cavendish
	4pm	Baptist Church	Rowan Williams
	4pm	Parish Centre	Martin Edwards
	7:30pm	The Maltings	Lemn Sissay
SUN	10am	Guildhall	Steve Veerapen
15 OCT	12 noon	Guildhall	Peter Caddick-Adams
	1pm	Berwick Baptist Church	Matthew Rice
	2pm	The Maltings	McCall Smith & Marshall
	2pm	Guildhall	Nigel Biggar
	3:15pm	Berwick Baptist Church	Andrew Greig
	4pm	Guildhall	Nicholas Kenyon
	7:30pm	The Maltings	Karine Polwart



Book now:

berwicklitfest.eventbrite.co.uk



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