

FÈIS LEABHRAICHEAN AN EILEIN SKYE BOOK FESTIVAL

31 AUG ~ 2 SEPT 2017



BOOK AT SKYEBOOKFESTIVAL.CO.UK OR 01478 613750

FÀILTE

Thairis air sia bliadhna a-nise tha Fèis Leabhraichean an Eilein Sgitheanaich air aithne a chosnadh mar ghnòthach àraid cultarail nar n-eilean. Gach bliadhna, tha prògram farsaing air a bhith againn, le rudan inntinneach a' dol do shean is òg.

Am-bliadhna bidh sop às gach seid againn a-rithist, eadar leabhraichean eucoir, eachdraidh-teaghaich Sgitheanach, ceòl, Gàidhlig, agus rudan a' tachairt air a' bhlàr a-muigh. Thairis air sreath de thachartasan, còmhraidhean agus deasbadaan cuiridh sinn fàilte chridheil air grunn sgrìobhadairean a tha air leth inntinneach. Tachraidh sibh ri seann laoich leithid Iain MacFhraing, Aonghas Phàdraig Caimbeul, Maoilios Caimbeul, Alasdair Mac an Tòisich agus Graeme MacRath Burnet. Ann cuideachd bidh Deirde Curley, Caoimhin MacNìl agus iomradh sa Ghàidhlig air An Leabhar Liath bho Phàdrùig MacAoidh. Feuch gun tig sibh - bidh e fìor mhath ur faicinn.

WELCOME

We are delighted to announce the programme for our sixth Skye Book Festival. A programme of events that welcomes writers, thinkers and artists to Skye to inspire, challenge and entertain our fabulous audiences.

This year's Book Festival offers a diverse range of events including enlightening interview-style chats, question and answer sessions where you can join in and have your say, book folding workshops, our innovative and well-established Annual Poetry Walk and the PBFA Antiquarian Book Fair, along with readings and book signings.

Many thanks to our supporters.



ALBA | CHRUTHACHAIL



BOOKING INFORMATION

ONLINE

www.skyebookfestival.co.uk

TELEPHONE

01478 613750

Lines open everyday 9:00am - 5:00pm

IN PERSON

The Aros Centre, Portree IV51 9EU

EVENTS

Unless otherwise stated events last about an hour and include a Q&A session and book signing where appropriate

FOLLOW US

Keep an eye on the festival website, twitter and facebook for updates.

 [skyebookfest](#)  [skyebookfest](#)

TICKET DEALS

DAY PASS £15

To include all events for any one day of Skye Book Festival 2017 excluding The Art of Folding Books workshop.

FULL FESTIVAL PASS £45

To include all events for the entire Skye Book Festival 2017 excluding The Art of Folding Books workshop.

THE VENUES

AROS CENTRE

Viewfield Road, Portree, Skye IV51 9EU
www.aros.co.uk or call 01478 613750

PORTREE COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Located in the Fingal Centre, Portree.
Viewfield Road, Portree IV51 9ET.
Telephone 01478 614823.

THURSDAY 31 AUGUST – OPENING EVENT



ALASTAIR MCINTOSH & DONALD S MURRAY **POACHER'S PILGRIMAGE & PSALM-BOAT**

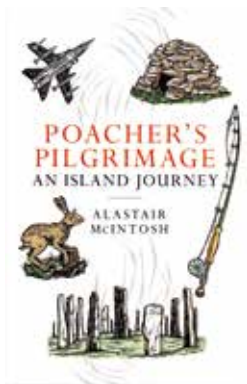
12:00pm · The Aros Centre · £5

Opening Event with Gaelic Precenting

Poacher's Pilgrimage tells of Alastair's twelve day journey by foot across his home island of Harris and Lewis. It explores the spirituality of the islands, the beehive bothan sites, holy wells and pre-Reformation temples, and is a lyrical reflection on what gives meaning in our time, including his exploration of ecology and its connections to the imagination.

"Poacher's Pilgrimage is a book full of generosity, spry in its thinking and detailed in its observations." Scotland on Sunday

Psalm-Boat is a three part poem that celebrates the gathering of communities, often across water, for annual communions.



THURSDAY 31 AUGUST



PETER MACKAY

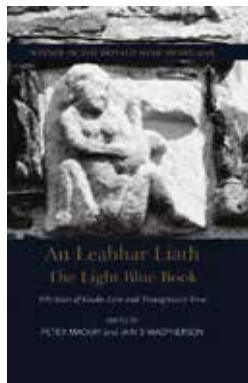
500 YEARS OF GAELIC LOVE

2:00pm · The Aros Centre · £5

Event in Gaelic and English

An Leabhar Liath / The Light Blue Book breaks the mould of anthologies of Gaelic verse. This collection, covering 500 years, offers poems that are erotic, rude, seditious and transgressive; that deal with love, sex, the body, politics and violent passion; and that are by turns humorous, disturbing, shocking and enlightening. The editors give contexts for the creation, transmission and value of these poems, as historical documents, as joyous - or tragic - works of art, that have survived centuries of neglect, suppression or threats of being 'burned by the hand of the common executioner'. After reading this book, you won't think of Gaelic culture in quite the same way ever again. Prepare to be shocked!

Winner of the 2016 Donald Meek Award.



THURSDAY 31 AUGUST



ANGUS PETER CAMPBELL

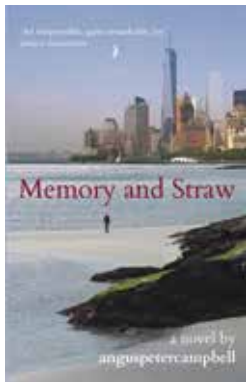
MEMORY AND STRAW

3:00pm · The Aros Centre · £5

Chair: Cailean Maclean

Aonghas Phàdraig Caimbeul is an award-winning poet and novelist in both Gaelic and English. *Memory and Straw* is a novel about artificial intelligence and a quest for authenticity that ranges from New York to Rome via the Highlands of Scotland. It is a novel about the struggle for freedom and personal identity; what it means to be human. It fuses the glass and steel of our increasingly controlled algorithmic world with the memory and straw of our forebears' world controlled by traditions and taboos, the seasons and the elements.

"An irrepressible, quite remarkable, joy." Janice Galloway



THURSDAY 31 AUGUST



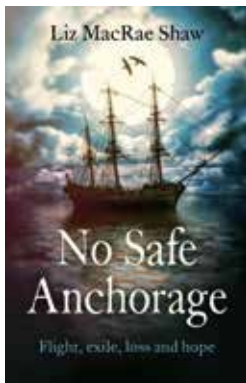
LIZ MACRAE SHAW

**NO SAFE ANCHORAGE
FLIGHT, EXILE, LOSS AND HOPE**

BOOK LAUNCH · 6:00pm · Portree Community Library · FREE

Tickets must be booked in advance. Limited to 30 spaces.

Tom Masters, a nineteenth century naval officer, is a round peg in a square hole. A tantalising glimpse of a stranger leads him to jump ship on a quest to find her. His adventures, interwoven with the life of a young Robert Louis Stevenson, take Tom from the Isle of Skye to Canada. There he encounters others who have been jettisoned by society, including Silent Owl, a Native American who becomes his soul mate. But, danger and exposure threaten Tom's every move as he is forced to continue on his journey...



THURSDAY 31 AUGUST



GRAEME MACRAE BURNET

HIS BLOODY PROJECT

7:30pm · The Aros Centre · £10

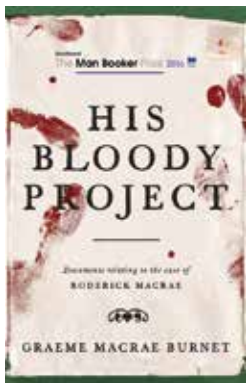
Chair: Alasdair MacRae

Graeme Macrae Burnet is one of Scotland's brightest literary talents and the author of *His Bloody Project*, which was shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize 2016 and won Saltire fiction book of the year 2016. It is soon to be published in around 20 countries and the screen rights have been acquired by Synchronicity Films.

In 1869, a brutal triple murder in a remote Scottish Highland community leads to the arrest of a young man. Graeme Macrae Burnet's brilliant bestseller asks what drove young Roderick Macrae to commit such merciless acts of violence.

"Spellbinding...Riveting, dark and ingeniously constructed."
Sunday Times

"An astonishing piece of writing." *The Telegraph*



FRIDAY 1 SEPTEMBER

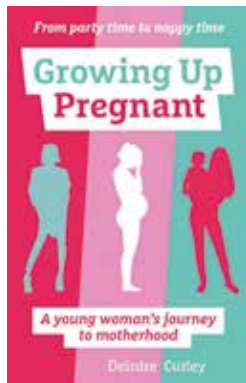


DEIRDRE CURLEY GROWING UP PREGNANT FROM PARTY TIME TO NAPPY TIME

11:00am · The Aros Centre · £5

When Deirdre Curley swapped her quiet island life on Skye for the big smoke of Glasgow at the age of 16, she dreamed of being a successful actress. Little did she know that she would soon be taking on the biggest role of her life - motherhood. *Growing Up Pregnant* is her "honest and reassuring" story about adjusting to pregnancy and motherhood whilst still growing up herself.

Deirdre said: "This is real life, there is no brushing over the parts of pregnancy that so many other pregnancy books don't talk about. From body changes and emotional difficulties to judgements and acceptance, I hope this book will help young women feel normal in their pregnancy and re-assure them at a time that can feel daunting and overwhelming."



FRIDAY 1 SEPTEMBER



KEVIN MACNEIL & IAIN URCHARDAN THE BRILLIANT & FOREVER AND BREAB, BREAB, BREAB

2:00pm · The Aros Centre · £5

Kevin MacNeil is an internationally acclaimed Scottish novelist, award-winning poet, playwright and keen cyclist. His critically acclaimed novel *The Brilliant & Forever* was shortlisted for the Saltire Fiction of the Year Award.

Iain Urchardan, a broadcaster on Gaelic radio and TV, alongside being a lecturer at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, has published a book of Gaelic short stories as part of Acair's Aiteal series of novels, *BREAB, BREAB, BREAB* is his first book.



FRIDAY 1 SEPTEMBER



NO BOOKS WERE HARMED **THE ART OF FOLDING BOOKS**

2:00pm · The Aros Centre · £25

4 hour Workshop

Introduction to The Art of Folding Books. All materials are included for you to use and keep. Having selected a suitable book, learn how to read a book folding pattern, and be guided through creating your first piece of folded book art. You'll leave the workshop with all the know how you need to go on and create any design you fancy. Jo from nobookswereharmd.co.uk is a full time, dedicated, no-cut, hand folding book artist and workshop facilitator based in Moray, who supplies a number of national and international retailers, private dealers and art galleries with their folded book art needs and exhibits her work at select events throughout Scotland.

Limited to 8 places per class.

Time: 2pm - 6pm (maybe a little longer or shorter)



FRIDAY 1 SEPTEMBER



MAOILIOS CAIMBEUL & DIARMUID JOHNSON

AN DÀ ANAM / IN TWO MINDS

BOOK LAUNCH · 3:00pm · The Aros Centre · £5

This book is a dialogue in Irish and Scottish Gaelic between an Irish and a Scottish Poet. The dialogue raises questions as to what a person can or cannot believe in today's chaotic world. The voice of Christianity is present, but also a voice from the Post-Christian world. From this bardic conversation, there arises an intense and fiery body of poetry.

To our knowledge, this is the first poetic dialogue of its kind between two Gaelic poets from Scotland and Ireland in the modern era, and the first elaborate exchange between the two branches of the tradition since the era of classical Gaelic nigh five centuries ago.



FRIDAY 1 SEPTEMBER



IAN RANKIN

RATHER BE THE DEVIL

7:30pm · The Aros Centre · £10

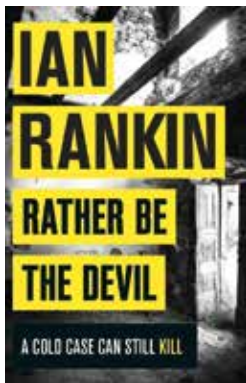
Chair: Mark Wringe

Some cases never leave you.

For John Rebus, forty years may have passed, but the death of beautiful, promiscuous Maria Turquand still preys on his mind. Murdered in her hotel room on the night a famous rock star and his entourage were staying there, Maria's killer has never been found.

In a tale of twisted power, deep-rooted corruption and bitter rivalries, *Rather Be the Devil* showcases Rankin and Rebus at their unstoppable best.

"Superbly told, impossible to put down, and laced with Rankin's unmistakable laconic wit it precisely underlines the treasure that Rebus has become." Daily Mail



SATURDAY 2 SEPTEMBER



POETRY WALK

STRONUIRINISH STONES

11:00am · The Aros Centre · £5

A walk amongst the stones of Portree (Stronuirinish) Cemetery with Davie McClymont and Norman Macdonald. A chance to talk about some of the more interesting residents, their biographies, and their place in Skye's story. Relevant elements of poetry will be used to illustrate the talk. Meet at the entrance to Aros from where the group will cross the road to the Stronuirinish cemetery.

Limited to 20 spaces.



SATURDAY 2 SEPTEMBER



NO BOOKS WERE HARMED **THE ART OF FOLDING BOOKS**

11:00am · The Aros Centre · £25

4 hour Workshop

Introduction to The Art of Folding books. All materials are included for you to use and keep. Having selected a suitable book, learn how to read a book folding pattern, and be guided through creating your first piece of folded book art. You'll leave the workshop with all the know how you need to go on and create any design you fancy. Jo from nobookswereharmd.co.uk is a full time, dedicated, no-cut, hand folding book artist and workshop facilitator based in Moray, who supplies a number of national and international retailers, private dealers and art galleries with their folded book art needs and exhibits her work at select events throughout Scotland.

Limited to 8 places per class.

Time: 11am - 3pm (maybe a little longer or shorter)



SATURDAY 2 SEPTEMBER



GILBERT MCKINNON

I'LL SING ON

12:00pm · The Aros Centre · £5

Chair: Dr Cameron Tallach

This book is the story of Catriona Maclean Mackinnon, a gifted and successful Scottish singer/harpist who lived on Skye. Still a young wife and mother, she was diagnosed with a life-threatening illness. Showing impressive strength of character, she decided to press on with her commitment to music and her struggle for perfection. In the midst of this, she unexpectedly found Christian faith. Her many letters reveal her spiritual journey in those days. Loved by many, she was an inspiration to others. As one of her friends said, "All the time, you knew that whatever mood she wore on the surface, underneath it all a deadly fight was going on. She never lowered the flag."

Gilbert McKinnon was born and brought up on the Isle of Arran. He lived on Skye in the early 1980's.



SATURDAY 2 SEPTEMBER



ROGER HUTCHINSON

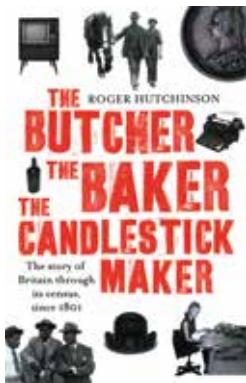
THE BUTCHER, THE BAKER, THE CANDLESTICK MAKER

2:00pm · The Aros Centre · £5

Once every decade since 1801, Britain takes a long, hard look at itself. In *The Butcher, the Baker, the Candlestick Maker*, Roger Hutchinson examines what the census has revealed through the years. From its beginnings as a simple head count to a computerised analysis of a nation through race, religion, location and occupation, it's a unique perspective on the changing face of society.

"so rich in personality and character that we are left wondering where those stories of marriage, migration and ambition went next. Hutchinson can weave a fine tale." BBC History

"His achievement, beneath the joy of the detail, is to suggest that the census is also a story of enterprise, vision, trust and reliability - a force of enlightenment." The Times



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PBFA BOOK FAIR THURSDAY - SATURDAY

The Aros Centre · FREE Entry

**THURS: NOON - 5.30PM, FRI: 9:00AM - 5.30PM,
SAT: 9:00AM - 4.30PM**

Exhibitors include:

HILARY FARQUHARSON

T 01307 860293 E deucharfarm@btconnect.com

GILLEASBUIG FERGUSON RARE BOOKS

T 01470532808 M 07766204533 E gilleasbuig@hotmail.com

DAVID B JARVIS

T 01968 678175 E davidjarvisbooks@gmail.com

MICHAEL MOON'S BOOKSHOP

T 01946 599010 E moonsbookshop@googlemail.com

MR MAC

T 01848 200469 E info@mrmacbooks.co.uk

PLAN YOUR VISIT

The journey to Skye can be one of the most spectacular in the world whichever way you travel. Most visitors arrive by car, crossing the toll-free Skye Bridge from the mainland at Kyle of Lochalsh. It takes about 40 minutes to drive from the Skye Bridge to the Aros Centre, Viewfield Road, Portree, IV51 9EU.

HELP WITH ACCOMMODATION AND PLANNING YOUR BREAK

VisitScotland: +44 (0)131 524 2121
www.visitscotland.com

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Stagecoach 58 and Citylink 915 & 916 run to and from the Aros Centre. More information can be found at www.stagecoachbus.com, www.citylink.co.uk or www.traveline.info

PARKING

Ample free parking is available on site

FOOD & DRINK

The Aros Centre restaurant, offering beautiful panoramic views looking over Loch Portree, is a casual and family-friendly restaurant open seven days a week from 9am - 5pm. Serving freshly cooked meals all day, with gluten free and vegetarian options available, Isle of Arran Dairies ice cream, as well as hot and cold drinks, wine and beer.

The new Aros Café Bar is a relaxed and comfortable space with a selection of cold drinks, great coffee and speciality teas, accompanied by delicious home baking, served alongside a range of wine, beer, cider and spirits.

FESTIVAL AT A GLANCE

THURS 31 AUGUST

12:00PM · £5
ALASTAIR MCINTOSH
& DONALD S MURRAY

2:00PM · £5
PETER MACKAY

3:00PM · £5
ANGUS PETER
CAMPBELL

6:00PM · £5
LIZ MACRAE SHAW

7:30PM · £10
GRAEME MACRAE
BURNET

FRI 1 SEPTEMBER

11:00AM · £5
DEIRDRE CURLEY

2:00PM · £5
KEVIN MACNEIL &
IAIN URCHARDAN

2:00PM · £25
BOOK FOLDING
WORKSHOP

3:00PM · £5
MAOILIOS CAIMBEUL
& DIARMUID JOHNSON

7:30PM · £10
IAN RANKIN

SAT 2 SEPTEMBER

11:00AM · £5
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