AROUND THE WORLD IN 18 DAYS
Charlotte Square Gardens
Edinburgh
15 – 31 August 2015
www.edbookfest.co.uk

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Wednesday 10 June 2015

AROUND THE WORLD IN 18 DAYS
Edinburgh International Book Festival
Launches Its Most International Programme to Date

In a world where the migration of people, whether through economic, social or political causes, whether voluntary or enforced, captures our attention on a daily basis, the Edinburgh International Book Festival makes time to look behind the headlines. The Book Festival’s 2015 programme takes a voyage of discovery to every continent on earth to see how this flow of humanity, and the stories that come with and result from it, shapes our lives, our opinions and our identities. In its most international programme to date, the Book Festival welcomes voices from over 55 countries writing in a multitude of languages, many of whom are translated into English for the first time.

Nick Barley, Director of the Edinburgh International Book Festival, said “Scotland has always been an outward-looking nation and this year the Book Festival is more international than ever before. Charlotte Square Gardens will reflect the idea of the Global Village as we welcome authors from across the planet. Whether they are from Nigeria or North Korea; Colombia or China, these are writers whose stories shed light not only on the big changes in world power, but on the shifting nature of local cultures—changes that are also taking place in Scotland.”

Some literary megastars in their own countries make the trip to Edinburgh this August including Spain’s Jaume Cabré whose Confessions has sold over 1 million copies, Germany’s Jenny Erpenbeck who has just won the 2015 Independent Foreign Fiction Prize, the multi-award winning Helle Helle from Denmark, South Korea’s Han Kang, Alain Mabanckou from Congo and Salla Simukka, an exceptional new Young Adult author from Finland.

Marilynne Robinson, regarded as one of America’s greatest living writers, makes her first visit to Charlotte Square Gardens, as do French ‘rockstar’ mathematician Cédric Villani, renowned playwright David Hare, street artist Stik and one of the most formidable civil rights activists of the 20th century, the Reverend Jesse Jackson. Palestinian lawyer Raja Shehadeh launches Shifting Sands, a book of powerful and engaging essays on the Middle East which grew out of a series of discussions curated by Shehadeh at the 2014 Book Festival.

Philippa Gregory launches her brand new novel on Henry VIII’s last queen, Patrick Ness reveals his much-anticipated new novel, Val McDermid discusses her new crime novel with the First Minister Nicola Sturgeon while Pat Barker, Arne Dahl, Aleksandar Hemon, Tom Holland, John Banville and Andrew Miller also launch exciting new books. Elsewhere in the programme Louis de Bernières, Joanne Harris and Etgar Keret are joined by David Mitchell, Irvine Welsh, Emily Woof, Owen Sheers, Amit Chaudhuri, previous Man Booker Prize winners Ben Okri and Howard Jacobson, Pulitzer Prize winner Jane Smiley and historians Antony Beevor and Ferdinand Mount.
Telling their own fascinatingly personal stories are North Korean exile Hyeonseo Lee, comedian Paul Merton, Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow who founded Mary’s Meals, Ronnie Browne from The Corries, Chinese lawyer and dissident Chen Guangcheng, former member of The Communards Reverend Richard Coles and historian Antonia Fraser. Channel 4 Economics Editor Paul Mason discusses capitalism and a route to a fairer society with former First Minster Alex Salmond; Caroline Lucas, the Green Party’s solitary MP, explores the Westminster system; former Prime Minister Gordon Brown examines the future of Scotland and BBC Political Editor Nick Robinson takes us through his 2015 Election Diaries.

As well as introducing brand new writing from across the globe, the Trading Stories strand also examines how stories travel, bringing together writers and translators for an exploration of language, identity and the myriad of international influences that have inspired and defined Scottish writing. Marina Warner asks how fairy stories shed light on human understanding as they travel from continent to continent, Daniel Hahn, one of the world’s foremost translators, examines the creative, linguistic and political challenges required to take stories across borders. Many of the popular Reading Workshops have been inspired to focus on translated classics, such as Madame Bovary and Anna Karenina. Trading Stories is supported by the Scottish Government’s Edinburgh Festivals Expo Fund.

Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Europe and External Affairs Fiona Hyslop said, “As well as another fantastic line up of top writers, this year the Edinburgh International Book Festival is highlighting one of today’s most important subjects, internationalism. For centuries, great writers have opened our minds to novel worlds and lands. Through understanding others we embrace new ideas and expand our imagination, both are vital for a country looking to succeed on the world stage. Scots have always embraced internationalism. Our intangible cultural heritage of storytelling, poetry and music transcends boundaries and we are proud to support Trading Stories, a key strand of the international theme, through the Edinburgh Festivals Expo Fund.”

There are five Guest Selectors who have curated strands in this year’s programme. Internationally renowned visual artist and Mexico’s single most important cultural figure, Gabriel Orozco, offers an Insider’s Guide to Mexico and speaks to seven formidable Mexican novelists, poets and writers in a sparkling reflection of their home literary scene. Lennie Goodings, publisher of the Virago imprint for over 30 years, presents the theme of The Female Gaze, offering a challenge to the masculine view of the world which still pervades Britain’s culture. With guests including Jane Gardam, Sarah Waters and Eileen Atkins, her events discuss ageing, extremism and lost classics.

Edinburgh’s own Ian Rankin has chosen to chat to some of his favourite writers and musicians and his guests include Hollywood A-Lister Alan Cumming, musicians Viv Albertine, Edwyn Collins and Stuart David, co-founder of Belle and Sebastian. Charlotte Higgins, the Guardian’s chief culture writer, looks at the complex interaction between globalisation and xenophobia and speaks to leading classicists alongside specialists in contemporary affairs. Finally across both the adult and children’s programmes Gill Arbuthnott, author of novels for young adults...
and picture books for pre-schoolers, highlights the need for us all to be science literate with guests including French physicist Christophe Galfard and Professor Robert Winston. Debi Gliori is the 2015 Illustrator in Residence.

The Book Festival continues to champion new talent and its annual First Book Award, now in its sixth year, features 55 debut novelists and short story writers. There are renowned international authors: Melinda Nadj Abonji from Switzerland, Nigeria’s Chigozie Obioma, and Ahmet Altan from Turkey among them; exceptional home-grown talent such as Melinda Salisbury, Kate Hamer, Mark Blacklock and Simon Sylvester, and those perhaps better known for their other careers including Colin MacIntyre, Helen Lederer, Celia Imrie and Jesse Armstrong. The winner of the First Book Award is voted for by readers and visitors to the Book Festival and announced in October.

Always exploring new ways of presenting literature, words and books, there is a strong performance element in the 2015 Festival. In a tribute to Seamus Heaney, a full length dramatic reading of his translation of *Beowulf* takes place in a co-production with the Tron Theatre Company. The renowned Shakespearean and Wolf Hall actor Mark Rylance reads from Paul Kingsnorth’s novel *The Wake* and in a major collaboration with La Maison de la Poésie de Montreal and the Scottish Poetry Library, three leading writers from the First Nation Innu people of Northern Canada present a performance of their poems, stories and music in French and Innu-aimun. The Babble On series of Spoken Word events includes appearances from Kate Tempest and George the Poet.

Terry Waite delivers The Frederick Hood Memorial Lecture, Matt Haig delivers The Siobhan Dowd Trust Memorial Lecture and the 2015 Bailey’s Prize winner Ali Smith The PEN / H G Wells Lecture. Past and present winners of the European Union Prize for Literature discuss the power of literature across languages, the winners of the James Tait Black Prizes are revealed and in celebration of the Man Booker International Prize, translators of László Krasznahorkai’s work are joined by the Chair of the judges, Marina Warner, to discuss the 2015 winner.

The Baillie Gifford Children’s Programme reflects the cultural diversity now found within Scotland. China’s Haji Noor Deen turns words into artforms through calligraphy. Iranian illustrator Anahita Teymorian talks about translating picture books and French graphic novelist Barroux launches his new wordless picture book. Bruce Pascoe, Dub Leffler and Brenton McKenna jet in from Australia. Julian Clary and Danny Wallace both present their first children’s books, Kristina Stephenson and Derek Landy each launch their new series, and Cressida Cowell launches the last in her *How to Train your Dragon* series.

The Edinburgh International Book Festival receives funding from Creative Scotland and the City of Edinburgh Council and this year welcomes over 900 participants from 55 different countries to Charlotte Square Gardens and runs from Saturday 15 to Monday 31 August 2015. Entrance to the Gardens is FREE. Full details of the programme can be found at [www.edbookfest.co.uk](http://www.edbookfest.co.uk). Tickets to all events go on sale at 8.30am on Tuesday 23 June 2015, online at [www.edbookfest.co.uk](http://www.edbookfest.co.uk), by phone on 0845 373 5888 or in person at the Box Office at the Roxburghe Hotel on George Street (on Tuesday 23 June only, thereafter at The Hub, Castlehill).
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ADDITIONAL
ADULT
PROGRAMME
HIGHLIGHTS

In addition to the dramatic reading of Heaney’s *Beowulf*, and Mark Rylance reading from *The Wake*, the **Performance** strand includes Borders poet J O Morgan who recites from memory his contemporary reworking of a 1000 year old poem while Edinburgh Makar Christine de Luca performs her Shetlandic translation of *The Kalevala*, an epic work of Finnish poetry, accompanied by Shetland fiddler Catriona MacDonald. To mark the 5th anniversary of Edwin Morgan’s death, Gerry Mulgrew and a company of actors present a one-off rehearsed reading of Morgan’s translation of *Cyrano de Bergerac*.

To coincide with the Edinburgh International Festival’s new stage production of *Lanark*, **Alasdair Gray** discusses the origins of his masterwork, contrasting his ideas with a reading from his newest project and linking both to a classic work of literary criticism which provided his inspiration. The new generation of young, upcoming Scottish authors are represented by the likes of Kirsty Logan, Kirstin Innes and Michael F Russell.

In a year when **Human Rights** top the agenda, Director of Liberty Shami Chakrabarti and journalists Yasmin Alibhai-Brown and Bidisha discuss national security, national identity, immigration and extremism. Xinran examines the effects of China’s one child policy, Sergio González Rodríguez recounts his personal experiences of acts of human brutality in Mexico, Ben Stewart tells the story of the imprisonment of the Arctic 30 and Caroline Criado-Perez celebrates the heroic acts of women around the world.

The Book Festival’s popular **Stripped** strand of graphic novels and comics returns with a look at the birth of democracy in Greece, the politics of the Middle East, British political satire and memoir of Poland beyond the Iron Curtain. Featuring writers and illustrators including Andrzej Klimowski & Danusia Schejbal, Abraham Kawa & Alecos Papadatos, Steve Bell, Martin Rowson, Rob Davis, Laura Ellen Anderson and novelist Evie Wyld.

**Spaces for Literacy** debates the future of the library with key speakers including Tony Marx, president of the New York Public Library, Dutch architect Francine Houben who has recently completed the Birmingham Central Library, and Sergio Fajardo who, as Mayor of Medellin, oversaw a successful campaign to improve literacy in the city by placing libraries in downtrodden barrios.

Alongside a series of powerful novels by authors such as John Burnside, John Darnielle and Gavin Extence exploring mental health and mental illness, the **Staying Well** strand hears from Charles Jencks who has developed a life-affirming approach to cancer and healing. Matt Haig discusses his own breakdown, June Andrews explores the effects of dementia on sufferers as well as friends and family and Suzanne O’Sullivan offers a remarkable insight into the social stigma when the disease moves from physical to mental health.

**Jura Unbound**, the eclectic, funny, surprising, free, live literature evenings in the Spiegeltent, returns offering words, music, magic and more. The full programme of Jura Unbound, which takes place every night from 16 to 31 August, will be unveiled in early July.
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THE BAILLIE GIFFORD CHILDREN’S PROGRAMME EXPLORES A CHANGING CULTURE IN CHILDREN’S LITERATURE

In 2015 the Edinburgh International Book Festival’s Baillie Gifford Children’s Programme explores books and stories in translation allowing young people the opportunity to look imaginatively beyond their own experiences. Involving authors and illustrators from a wealth of nations the Book Festival examines how young people’s literature needs to be reflective of our multi-cultural, multi-lingual world.

Janet Smyth, Children and Education Programme Director, comments, “The more we learn of other countries and cultures the better we understand our world and our place in it. It is particularly important for young people to visit a festival that welcomes their cultures, backgrounds, heritage and languages. We welcome writers and illustrators from Europe, China, Iran and Australia as well as from across the UK to explore everything from contemporary tales to myths and folk tales.”

Every day the world continues to change and diversify but these cultural changes are not always reflected in children’s literature. Indigenous Australian writer Bruce Pascoe joins award-winning author David Almond and Alison Hubert, Director of Book Aid International, to debate the importance of offering children books that show the wider world and themselves within it.

From China, one of the greatest living masters of Islamic calligraphy, Haji Noor Deen, renders ayahs from *The Qur’an* in beautiful calligraphy. Iranian illustrator Anahita Teymorian talks about translating picture books, Norwegian former footballer Lars Joachim Grimstad introduces his novel *The Disappearing Children*, and French graphic novelist Barroux launches his new wordless picture book. Comedians Julian Clary and Danny Wallace both present their first children books. Cressida Cowell launches the last in her *How to Train your Dragon* series, while Kristina Stephenson and Derek Landy each reveal their brand new series. Patrick Ness exclusively launches his much anticipated new novel.

As the rate of scientific discovery accelerates, it is increasingly important we are a science literate populace. Guest Selector Gill Arbuthnott will explore the world of science communication, particularly for young people, with the likes of Robert Winston and Christiane Dorion.
Multi-award winning Scottish writer and illustrator Debi Gliori is this year’s Illustrator in Residence. Debi will explore how to reframe your own life stories through art. She will talk to adults, young adults and tots in a series of events including a Big Draw for children of all ages in the Baillie Gifford Story Box.

Younger children can enjoy free craft activities every day, and free storytelling sessions every morning, in the Baillie Gifford Story Box and there are a number of events of interest to young adults, with a wide selection of readings, author sessions, workshops and discussions for every age group in between.

The Edinburgh International Book Festival welcomes over 900 participants from 55 different countries to Charlotte Square Gardens this summer, and runs from Saturday 15 to Monday 31 August 2015. Full details of the adult and Baillie Gifford Children’s Programme can be found at www.edbookfest.co.uk. Tickets to all events go on sale at 8.30am on Tuesday 23 June 2015, online at www.edbookfest.co.uk, by phone on 0845 373 5888 or in person at the Box Office at the Roxburghe Hotel on George Street (on Tuesday 23 June only, thereafter at The Hub, Castlehill).

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For further information please contact: Frances Sutton, Press Manager
07841 579481 or frances@edbookfest.co.uk
Trading Stories explores truly great stories that are carried across languages, over borders and down through generations. Julia Donaldson explores language, illustration and translation, Lari Don introduces magical folk tales, Cathy Cassidy retells the classic story of Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland in Looking Glass Girl and Michelle Paver launches The Crocodile Tomb, her latest Gods and Warriors novel. Young Adult Nordic Noir is represented in As Red As Blood by Salla Simukka, in which a group of friends, high and drunk, find a bag of money and its owner wants it back at any cost.

Picture books have always been popular with younger readers but they are expanding in their appeal with Christiane Dorion’s ground-breaking new series How it Works aimed at 7-10 year olds. Touted as the new Julia Donaldson, Kristina Stephenson presents her new Sir Charlie Stinky Socks tale The Pirate’s Curse, CBeebies Presenter Cerrie Burnell brings her enchanting tale, Mermaid and Oliver Jeffers introduces his very funny, joyfully illustrated story that shows crayons have feelings too. Children’s favourite rabbit Miffy celebrates her 60th birthday in Charlotte Square Gardens.

Events for teens and Young Adults include performances from Kate Tempest and George the Poet, tales of teenage rebellion with surreal and fantastical twists from James Dawson and Laura Dockrill, Marcus Sedgwick’s new book The Ghosts of Heaven as well as discussions on Generation Y, male suicide and the Best of the Brits – celebrating the richness, diversity and intelligence of modern writing for young people.

Award-winning author Siobhan Dowd died in 2007, bequeathing her royalties to a charitable trust which aims to bring the joy of reading to those who need it most. This year The Siobhan Dowd Trust Memorial Lecture is delivered by Matt Haig whose books brilliantly and cleverly explore what it means to be human.

Stripped 2015, our recurring celebration of graphic novels, comics and visual storytelling, features the Etherington Brothers with their latest graphic novels, three workshops from Britain’s leading weekly comic The Phoenix, the first ever graphic novel of Peter Pan by Fin Cramb and Stephen White before coming to a funny finale in Comic Consequences, a live drawing session with Vivian French, Laura Ellen Anderson, Adam Murphy and Gary Northfield.

Popular children’s authors making a welcome return to Charlotte Square Gardens include: Jacqueline Wilson with her 101st and 102nd novels The Butterfly Club and Katy, David Melling with a new adventure for Hugless Douglas, Sarah McIntyre who launches How it Works and award-winning Frank Cottrell Boyce who brings his new novel.

Inspired by the Great Tapestry of Scotland, Scottish history and culture is explored in The History of Scotland by Allan Burnett. James Robertson introduces his latest Scots language translation Whith the Clockeddy Heard, Girvan willow artist David Powell creates a giant sculpture of a character from Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland and Chris Bradford, author of Ninja: a’ Chiad Dübhlann will reveal the secret arts of the ninja in Gaelic and English.

As part of the Changing Britain strand, Georgia Gould, a lead researcher on Generation Y, discusses how we can stop the next generation being cut adrift, when challenged with limited access to the job and housing markets. She is joined by Bruce Pascoe, who shares his experiences of working with disengaged groups in Australia and Niall Walker who has worked with disadvantaged youngsters in Edinburgh and Fife.
The First Book Award celebrates the novels, novellas and short stories from the 55 writers who will showcase their debut book (or first book translated into English) for adults or young adults at the 2015 Book Festival. The Award encourages audiences to read and vote for their favourite.

**Molly Antopol & Eliza Robertson**  
15 August 15:30  
US author Antopol’s debut collection, *The UnAmericans*, unfolds in Belarus, Tel Aviv and NYC’s Upper West Side. Meanwhile, a woman in one of Canadian Eliza Robertson’s grippingly tense stories from *Wallflowers* proclaims weirdly, ‘I feel love in the backs of my eyes’.

**Lisa Drakeford**  
15 August 18:45  

**Kirstin Innes & Melinda Nadj Abonji**  
15 August 20:45  
Innes’ *Fishnet* takes us deep into the world of sex workers with Fiona hunting for the sister who went missing years previously. Nadj Abonji’s novel *Fly Away, Pigeon* won prizes in Germany and Switzerland.

**Dorthe Nors**  
16 August 15:30  
Celebrated in Denmark, Nors now bursts onto the UK scene with a heady cocktail of short stories, *Karate Chop*, and a highly original, playful novella, *Minna Needs Rehearsal Space*. Appearing with Stuart Evers.

**Han Kang**  
16 August 19:00  
Han Kang’s *The Vegetarian* is lauded by critics as ‘haunting’, ‘seductive’ and ‘graceful and vivid’. Han (from South Korea) has already won major awards in her home country with this unforgettable novel. Appearing with Mary Costello.

**Tim Clare & Colin MacIntyre**  
16 August 20:45  
Clare was once part of the ‘poetry boyband’ Aisle 16 while MacIntyre is a singer songwriter, author and producer known as ‘Mull Historical Society’. Clare’s book is *TheHonours* while MacIntyre has written *The Letters of Ivor Punch* set, needless to say, on Mull.

**Thomas Morris**  
17 August 15:30  
The Dublin-based Welshman builds his fearsomely accomplished debut story collection, *We Don’t Know What We’re Doing*, around characters in his home town of Caerphilly. Appearing with David Gates.

**Helle Helle**  
17 August 19:00  
The highly-respected Danish author’s work has been translated into English for the first time, and Helle joins us to discuss *This Should Be Written in the Present Tense*. It’s a subtle, measured and inexplicably intriguing portrayal of a young woman.

**Claire Fuller**  
17 August 20:45  
*Our Endless Numbered Days* is about a girl whose survivalist father takes her to a forest shack to save her from the end of the world. Appearing with Nick Holdstock.

**Mark Blacklock**  
18 August 17:00  
The Yorkshire Ripper hoaxer is the subject of Blacklock’s *I’m Jack*. Appearing with Danny Rhodes.

**Kat Ellis**  
18 August 17:30  
In *Blackfin Sky* Ellis tells the tale of Skylar, who falls from Blackfin Pier and drowns. Three months later she reappears as if nothing has happened. Appearing with Cat Clarke.

**Yuri Herrera & Julia Rochester**  
19 August 17:00  
One of Mexico’s most exciting new voices, Herrera’s *Signs Preceding the End of the World* sees a young woman crossing the US border to find her missing brother. Rochester’s atmospheric *The House at the Edge of the World* tells of a sister and brother dealing with the mysterious disappearance of their father.

**Tom Callaghan**  
20 August 15:30  
Eastern Europe is the setting for this vivid crime fiction. Callaghan’s thriller debut, *A KIlling Winter*, concerns a brutal murder in Kyrgyzstan which leads an investigator down a sinister tunnel of political corruption. Appearing with Tommy Wieringa.

**Esther Gerritsen & Amy Mason**  
20 August 20:45  
The complex relationship between mothers and their daughters is at the heart of writing by bestselling Dutch author Esther Gerritsen and emerging talent Amy Mason. Both Gerritsen’s razor-sharp third novel *Craving* (her first translated into English) and Mason’s prize-winning debut *The Other Ida* ask whether girls can ever escape the shadow of their mothers.
Alison Case 21 August 11:45
Wuthering Heights’ main narrator makes a comeback in Case’s new historical fiction Nelly Dean, which reimagines life in that notorious farmhouse through the eyes of the Earnshaw family’s loyal servant. In conversation with Tracy Chevalier.

Michael F Russell & Sara Taylor 21 August 15:30
Russell’s Lie of the Land is a claustrophobic thriller set in a post-apocalyptic Scotland while Taylor’s The Shore revolves around the fierce and resilient women who inhabit a collection of small islands in the Atlantic Ocean.

Steve Cavanagh 21 August 19:00
Successful civil rights lawyer Cavanagh has penned his first novel, an exhilarating legal thriller. The first of his Eddie Flynn series is a heart-pumping tale of a hustler lawyer whose daughter is kidnapped by the Russian mafia. Appearing with Mason Cross.

Abbie Rushton 22 August 14:00
Rushton’s UnSpeakable is a brave novel which challenges ideas about identity, featuring a character with selective mutism confronting the trauma that caused it. Appearing with Sarah Crossan.

Catherine Doyle 22 August 18:45
Vendetta is set in wealthy New York City with gangsters, family feuds and forbidden love. A pacy, exciting novel by a writer making her mark. Appearing with Alex Wheatle.

Sean Michaels & Anna Smaill 22 August 19:00
Michaels won the Giller Prize (Canada’s Man Booker) for Us Conductors, a novel that tells the true story of Russian inventor and spy, Lev Termen. New Zealand’s Anna Smaill has penned The Chimes, set in a future London where music has replaced written words and memory is forbidden.

Philip Teir 23 August 10:15
The Finnish-Swede’s assured debut novel The Winter War reveals the cracks beneath the surface of an apparently happy Scandinavian couple’s relationship. Appearing with Tessa Hadley.

Johannes Anyuru 23 August 12:15
Born in Sweden but haunted by his father’s Ugandan history, Anyuru reimagines events from his family’s history in an intense novel, A Storm Blew in from Paradise. Appearing with Dan Gunn.

Melinda Salisbury 23 August 17:45
Creating believable, immersive fantasy worlds that take readers on exciting journeys requires skillful writing. Salisbury’s novel The Sin Eater’s Daughter is set in a world where a single touch can kill. Appearing with Moira Young.

Philip Miller 23 August 19:00
The Blue Horse is a remarkably assured literary noir set in the art world that award-winning Herald arts correspondent Miller knows so well. Appearing with Matthew Plampin.

Monica Cantieni 25 August 15:30
The immigrant experience is powerfully explored in Cantieni’s The Encyclopaedia of Good Reasons which tells the deeply moving story of a young girl’s long wait for adoption into a Swiss family. Appearing with Sunjeev Sahota.

Andrea Bennett & Emma Hooper 25 August 17:00
Bennett’s Galina Petrovna’s Three-Legged Dog Story is the story of a canine whose capture triggers a trans-Russia escapade, while Hooper’s Etta and Otto and Russell and James has an octogenarian taking a walk of 2000 miles in order to see the ocean.

Helen Lederer 25 August 19:15
Losing It is the very funny debut from Lederer, who tells the story of Millie, once known for TV and radio appearances but now broke, overweight and with a daughter in Papua New Guinea.

Celia Imrie 25 August 20:15
Accomplished stage and screen actress Imrie has written Not Quite Nice, a light-hearted novel set on the French Riviera. Against the backdrop of a blue Mediterranean, Imrie crafts a charming comedy.

Kate Hamer 25 August 20:45
Every parent dreads their child going missing. In Hamer’s The Girl in the Red Coat, this agony befalls Beth when Carmel wanders off while they’re attending a local festival. Appearing with Stuart Prebble.

Lucy Ribchester & Care Santos 26 August 14:00
Edinburgh’s Ribchester has made waves in 2015 with her debut, The Hourglass Factory. In Desire for Chocolate, award-winning Catalan-Spanish writer Santos takes a fictional journey starting with the cocoa bean’s arrival in Europe.
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<tr>
<th>Author</th>
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<tr>
<td>Rob Doyle</td>
<td>26 August 15:30</td>
<td>An uncompromising novel by a ferociously talented writer. Rob Doyle is an Irish author whose <em>Here Are the Young Men</em> takes its title from a Joy Division lyric, and depicts life for four young men on the savage streets of Dublin. Appearing with Oscar Coop-Phane.</td>
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<td>Chigozie Obioma &amp; Simon Sylvester</td>
<td>26 August 17:00</td>
<td>Obioma’s thrillingly assured debut novel <em>The Fishermen</em> is set in small-town Nigeria, while Simon Sylvester’s seductive debut <em>The Visitors</em> unfolds on a remote Scottish island. Yet despite their disparate locations, these stories are united by the presence of mysterious outsider figures, whose unsettling effect on the community drives the tension.</td>
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<td>Robyn Cadwallader &amp; Cecilia Ekbäck</td>
<td>27 August 10:15</td>
<td>Australian author Cadwallader’s <em>The Anchoress</em> is set in an atmospheric 13th century England, while Ekbäck’s <em>Wolf Winter</em> takes place in the eerie landscape of Swedish Lapland in 1717. Both are towering achievements in the evocation of lost worlds.</td>
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<td>Lindsay Hawdon &amp; Sara Nović</td>
<td>27 August 15:30</td>
<td>Hawdon tells the moving and uplifting story of Jakob, a gypsy boy on the run from persecution in <em>Jakob’s Colours</em>, while Nović draws on her own family’s experiences in <em>Girl at War</em>, the devastatingly powerful depiction of a 10 year old girl caught up in a civil war.</td>
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<td>Ahmet Altan</td>
<td>27 August 17:00</td>
<td>Ahmet Altan is one of Turkey’s most respected and bestselling novelists and <em>Endgame</em> is built around a deeply unreliable narrator who has committed murder. Appearing with Carlos Gamerro.</td>
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<td>Robert Seethaler</td>
<td>28 August 15:45</td>
<td>Austrian author Seethaler has enjoyed huge European success with <em>A Whole Life</em>, which tells the story of Andreas, who is plunged into solitude when his pregnant lover is killed in an avalanche. Appearing with Jaume Cabré.</td>
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<td>Lisa McInerney</td>
<td>28 August 17:00</td>
<td>Ireland-based McInerney writes prose that is biting, moving and often darkly funny. Her debut, <em>The Glorious Heresies</em>, has prompted The Irish Times to call her ‘the most talented writer at work today in Ireland’. Appearing with Emily Mackie.</td>
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<td>Jesse Armstrong</td>
<td>28 August 20:45</td>
<td>Screenwriter Jesse Armstrong, best known for TV comedy <em>Peep Show</em> and his work on <em>The Thick of It</em>, applies that viciously funny streak to his first novel, <em>Love, Sex and Other Foreign Policy Goals</em>. Appearing with Tom Drury.</td>
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<td>Sara Baume &amp; Ian Stephen</td>
<td>30 August 15:30</td>
<td>Baume’s <em>Spill Simmer Falter Wither</em> captures a unique love story in four seasons. Meanwhile, Ian Stephen’s <em>A Book of Death and Fish</em> sees a man reflecting on his life and times in his native Stornoway.</td>
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<td>Bill Clegg</td>
<td>30 August 16:00</td>
<td>Few debut novelists are as well known to literary insiders as Bill Clegg. A respected New York literary agent, he wrote a stunning memoir of his battle with addiction before turning to fiction. Today he launches <em>Did You Ever Have a Family?</em> Appearing with Andrew Miller.</td>
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<td>Jesús Carrasco &amp; Max Porter</td>
<td>31 August 15:30</td>
<td>Stark, visceral and unforgettable, Spanish author Carrasco’s debut novel <em>Out in the Open</em> has become an international bestseller and is earning the author flattering comparisons with Cormac McCarthy. A strangely gorgeous, tender fable, Porter’s <em>Grief is the Thing with Feathers</em> is the London-based editor’s first foray into fiction, and it marks the arrival of a voice in British literature quite unlike any other.</td>
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JULY
BOOK LAUNCHES

Paul Murray
15 August 10:15
The Mark and the Void, Murray’s much anticipated follow-up to Skippy Dies, is probably the funniest, most ambitious novel you’ll ever read about art, love and commerce. Appearing with Stephen Kelman.

Louis de Bernières
16 August 15:15
De Bernières’ new novel The Dust that Falls from Dreams charts the lives and loves of an unforgettable cast of characters as the early 20th century unfolds.

Will Gompertz
19 August 18:45
In Think Like an Artist the BBC Arts Editor focuses not just on output, but the creativity with which artists approach their work. He argues that there’s a link between creativity and entrepreneurialism and we can improve our own lives by learning some of their skills.

Benjamin Wood
19 August 19:00
Wood’s powerful second novel The Ecliptic is set on an island off Istanbul where artists are striving to restore their faded confidence. But their refuge is disrupted by the arrival of a disaffected teenager. Appearing with Rachel Cusk.

Jim Crumley
20 August 12:15
Beavers are the subject of Jim Crumley’s passion in Nature’s Architect, a study of the reintroduction of the animals at several UK sites. Appearing with Adam Thorpe.

Mason Cross
21 August 19:00
Cross has followed up his high-octane debut, The Killing Season, with The Samaritan, which sees the return of Carter Blake and his unconventional ways to track down the killer. Appearing with Steve Cavanagh.

Ben Aaronovitch
21 August 20:45
Aaronovitch has hit novel pay-dirt with his Rivers Of London stories featuring Peter Grant, who is both a magician and detective constable. The most recent tale in that series is Foxglove Summer.

Sean Michaels
22 August 19:00
Born in Stirling, Montreal’s Michaels won the Giller Prize (Canada’s Man Booker) for Us Conductors, a novel about electricity that tells the true story of Russian inventor and spy, Lev Termen. Appearing with Anna Smaill.

Limmy
22 August 21:45
His first book was called Daft Wee Stories, but Brian Limond, aka Limmy, has been making a big splash for some years now. Having emerged with his online series of dark yet oddly loveable Glasgow characters, he has taken the next step by creating the BAFTA-winning Limmy’s Show.

Jonathan Fenby
23 August 14:00
It is 200 years since France’s defeat at the Battle of Waterloo. Since then Britain’s neighbour has gone through tumultuous times: world wars, social upheaval, political change, secularism, and most recently religious extremism. In this definitive history of a nation, renowned historian Fenby documents that change and defines the unique national character that has remained throughout.

Ed Caesar & Richard Moore
23 August 20:45
Of the ten fastest 100m sprint times in history, eight belong to Jamaicans. Of the five fastest ever marathon times, four belong to Kenyans. What exactly creates the conditions for one country to dominate a sport so completely? In two riveting books, journalists Ed Caesar, with Two Hours, and Richard Moore, with The Bolt Supremacy, investigate the mystery and intrigue surrounding Jamaican sprinters and Kenyan long-distance specialists.

Mark Fisher
24 August 14:15
The Fringe would be nothing without the critics who rant, rave and rage about the performances they see. Yet with a changing media landscape, some have claimed that theatre criticism is in crisis. Mark Fisher, Edinburgh-based critic, retains a boundless energy for theatre. Appearing with Joyce McMillan.

Malachy Tallack
24 August 15:45
How do northern landscapes affect the people who live in them? Tallack’s Sixty Degrees North includes interviews and observations in places which share the same latitude, from Shetland to Scandinavia and as far as Alaska. Appearing with Kathleen Winter.

Raymond Tallis
25 August 14:00
Writer and former doctor Tallis takes a look at life, but reflecting backwards from the standpoint of death. As he explains in The Black Mirror, his aim is to shed more light on the meaning of existence. Appearing with Susana Moreira Marques.
AROUND THE WORLD
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JULY
BOOK LAUNCHES

Nick Giles & Michael Hayman  28 August 14:15
There are new rules in business and Nick Giles and Michael Hayman are on hand to guide you through them. To thrive, you need to transform your ‘mission’ into a market reality that changes lives. The authors believe that to break through, you have to harness the power of stories.

Robert Seethaler  28 August 15:45
Austrian author Seethaler has enjoyed huge European success with A Whole Life, which tells the story of Andreas, who is plunged into solitude when his pregnant lover is killed in an avalanche. Appearing with Jaume Cabré.

Scarlett Thomas  28 August 19:00
Thomas’ new novel, The Seed Collectors, is a complex tale of inheritance, identity and how nature shapes us. Appearing with Reif Larsen.

Denise Mina  29 August 20:45
Mina is more interested in why crimes have been committed than the ‘whodunnit’. Her beloved cop Alex Morrow faces exactly this challenge in Blood, Salt, Water, as she tries to work out what’s behind the behaviour of her suspect. It’s a gripping story of greed, power and ulterior motives set against a backdrop of drug smuggling and money laundering in Glasgow and Helensburgh.

Stik  29 August 20:45
Stik is a street artist from London who has risen from the underground graffiti scene to international recognition for his compelling images of stick figures. He explores the power of visual storytelling and the role it plays in empowerment, protest and free speech for those who struggle to find a voice. Appearing with Ryan Gattis.

Hyeonseo Lee  30 August 19:15
As a child of Kim Il-sung’s North Korea, a teenage Hyeonseo Lee believed the Dear Leader was her saviour, even holding on to that faith after she’d fled the country to live with relatives in China. Subsequently, Lee fought for the rest of her family to join her over the border in the South. In The Girl with Seven Names she tells her incredible story, and reveals human rights abuses that have largely been kept secret.
Stephen Kelman  15 August 10:15
*Man On Fire*, the much anticipated follow-up to *Pigeon English*, is based on the story of a real-life masochist who specialises in feats of extreme endurance. Appearing with Paul Murray.

Justin Cartwright  16 August 19:00
In *Up Against the Night* Jon Carter is a man who appears to have it all. The shattering of his family and his daughter's illness force him to confront the reality of his heritage.

John Burnside  16 August 19:15
There's an emotional intensity about John Burnside’s novels. In this event Burnside discusses this month’s re-release of his 1997 debut novel *The Dumb House* as a Vintage Classic.

Andrew Cockburn  17 August 12:30
For his book *Kill Chain*, Cockburn has been quietly researching the US policy on drones. Despite the lack of evidence for their effectiveness in both Afghanistan and Iraq, these high-tech assassins have become a crucial weapon in Obama’s wars.

Thomas Morris  17 August 15:30
Morris builds his fearsomely accomplished debut story collection, *We Don’t Know What We’re Doing*, around characters in his home town of Caerphilly. Appearing with David Gates.

Ron Butlin  20 August 12:15

Malcolm Mackay  19 August 20:45
In *Every Night I Dream of Hell*, crime solver DI Fisher has barely a minute to lock up notorious felons before he confronts a different breed of criminal. Appearing with Ragnar Jónasson.

Lin Anderson & Christobel Kent  20 August 19:00
In *The Special Dead*, Anderson’s forensic investigator Rhona MacLeod uncovers a deadly network of witchcraft. Kent’s *The Killing Room* sees her Italian private investigator Sandro Cellini discovering all is not as it seems when a torture chamber is discovered beneath a luxury residence.

Philippa Gregory  21 August 10:00
launching her compelling story of the last of Henry VIII’s Queens, Kateryn Parr. In *The Taming of the Queen*, Gregory paints a vivid portrait of the woman who was already in a secret affair when Henry decreed that she should marry him.

Alison Case  21 August 11:45
*Wuthering Heights'* main narrator makes a comeback in Case’s new historical fiction *Nelly Dean*, which reimagines life in that notorious farmhouse through the eyes of the Earnshaw family’s loyal servant. In conversation with Tracy Chevalier.

Leila Aboulela  21 August 17:00
Aboulela injects a healthy dose of Scotland into her latest novel, *The Kindness of Enemies*. It opens in Scotland in 2010, and then journeys back to a time of war in 19th century Russia. Appearing with Alessandro Gallenzi.

Raja Shehadeh  21 August 19:30-21:00
At the 2014 Book Festival, Shehadeh presented a series of intense discussions about the Middle East. Those conversations are now powerful and engaging essays published in a book, *Shifting Sands*, featuring last summer’s luminous list of contributors.

Dave Haslam  21 August 21:30
Nightclubs and music venues have defined generations. In his latest book, Haslam journeys across Britain through rock, reggae and rave, exploring the history of clubs and venues and celebrating the people, the music, the passions and the fashions.

Jason Burke  22 August 14:00
Having reported on the Islamic world for more than a decade, Burke is well placed to offer an overview of the new militant groups that are emerging. His new book *The New Threat* is a lucid explanation of ISIS and Boko Haram, their ideologies and methods.

Alastair Bruce  23 August 15:30
Bruce’s *Boy On The Wire* tells of three brothers: one who died from a fall, one who survived it and one who witnessed it. Appearing with A D Miller.
## AUGUST BOOK LAUNCHES

### Kristina Stephenson
23 August 10:30
Join Kristina Stephenson, creator of *Sir Charlie Stinky Socks*, as she launches her marvellous new character Molly Maybe. In *Molly Maybe’s Monsters: The Dappity-Doofer*, Molly and her faithful friend Waggy Burns have a fabulous secret.

### John Harrison
23 August 17:30
For over a decade Harrison has been venturing into places such as the Antarctic Peninsula and South Shetland Islands, and now he’s published a book about Hernan Cortes, the Spanish explorer who helped bring about the fall of the Aztecs.

### Kirsty Logan
24 August 20:45
From the creation myth to the cult of the Virgin Mary, fairy tales have been crucial to civilisation. Contemporary writers like Kirsty Logan highlight how they continue to resonate, no more so than in her latest book, *A Portable Shelter*, launched today. In discussion with Marina Warner and Charlotte Higgins.

### Phyllida Barlow & Frances Morris
25 August 11:00
With five decades of remarkably original work behind her, the British sculptor Phyllida Barlow is now enjoying sustained international acclaim. Today she discusses taking risks and restlessness with The Tate’s Frances Morris, author of a new monograph of Barlow’s work.

### Patrick Ness
25 August 17:00
Not everyone gets to be the Chosen One who saves the day; most of us are like Mikey, just living our lives the best way we can. Award-winning author Patrick Ness’ bold and irreverent new novel *The Rest of Us Just Live Here* powerfully reminds us there are many different ways to be remarkable.

### Arne Dahl
25 August 20:45
With the recent BBC4 adaptations of his crime novels, Arne Dahl has become a stellar name in Scandinavian crime fiction. He presents *Europa Blues*, a crime novel with international migration at its heart. Appearing with Eva Dolan

### Val McDermid
26 August 18:45
McDermid meets First Minister Nicola Sturgeon to discuss *Splinter the Silence* and *Stranded*, a book of scintillating, nail-biting short stories.

### Doug Johnstone
26 August 20:45
Johnstone’s new novel, *The Jump*, features a mother trying to seek redemption in the wake of her son’s suicide. Appearing with Gunnar Staalesen.

### Ahmet Altan
27 August 17:00
Altan is one of Turkey’s best-respected and bestselling novelists and *Endgame* is built around a deeply unreliable narrator who has committed murder. Appearing with Carlos Gamerro.

### Paula McLain
28 August 10:15
In *Circling the Sun*, McLain strikes gold with a true story. This time she brilliantly reimagines 1920s Kenya, and a love triangle involving the aviator Beryl Markham, writer Karen Blixen and Dennis Finch Hatton. Appearing with Priya Parmar.

### Cressida Cowell
29 August 10:00
The first *How to Train Your Dragon* book by Cressida Cowell begins with a question: If dragons existed, what happened to them? Join Cressida for the final thrilling instalment of the series, *How to Fight a Dragon’s Fury*, and find out whether Hiccup can save the dragons from extinction.

### Alistair Moffat
29 August 15:15
Following the success of his recent books on the battle of Bannockburn, and on the genetic make-up of the Scottish people, Moffat now returns with a triumphant, sweeping *History of Scotland*, from prehistoric times to the recent Independence Referendum.

### Joe Sumner & Evie Wyld
29 August 15:45
Already the winner of Australia’s prestigious Miles Franklin Prize for *All the Birds, Singing*, Wyld’s writing career takes a thrilling new turn in a graphic memoir, *Everything Is Teeth*, that she’s produced together with illustrator Joe Sumner.

### Derek Landy
30 August 13:30
Landy joins us to launch the first in his brand spanking new and exciting trilogy, *Demon Road*. It features 16 year old Amber as she makes her way across America hotly pursued by demons.

### Andrew Miller
30 August 16:00
Miller is simply one of the most accomplished writers working in Britain. Today he launches his new novel about a voyage of self-discovery, *The Crossing*. Appearing with Bill Clegg.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT FRANCES SUTTON, PRESS MANAGER:
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AUGUST BOOK LAUNCHES

AROUND THE WORLD IN 18 DAYS
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Pat Barker 30 August 17:00
Noonday is the final instalment of Barker’s second trilogy dealing with war. It takes the Slade School of Art characters she first gave us in 2007’s Life Class and places them into the early months of the Second World War.

Christophe Galfard 30 August 17:30
Journey through the past, present and future of the universe with internationally renowned physicist Christophe Galfard. His latest book, The Universe in Your Hand, aims to explain quantum mechanics, general relativity, string theory and parallel realities through storytelling. In conversation with Gill Arbuthnott.

Paul Mason 31 August 15:15
According to Channel 4’s economics editor, the world is on the cusp of seismic political and economic change. In his far-sighted critique of our era, Post-Capitalism, Mason lays out possible routes towards a fairer society over the next 500 years. Today he is joined by former First Minister Alex Salmond to map out the alternatives.

John Niven 31 August 20:30
Former music industry man, the Irvine-born John Niven has written another barnstorming novel. Lifelong friends Helen and Julie are soon to turn 60 but when Helen’s husband is found dead in a very uncompromising scenario, it looks as though she might lose everything. With the aid of an octogenarian gangster, they plan a bank job that will save the day. Or at least they think it will.
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AUTUMN PREVIEWS

Tom Holland 18 August 15:45
Holland returns with a thrilling account of Rome’s first dynasty of emperors. Founded by Augustus Caesar, this line of autocrats became legendary for their depravity and excess.

Iain Pears 20 August 10:15
With the Russian state in some ways looking rather like its old Soviet-era self, the time seems ripe for a return to the stories of yore. So Arcadia, Iain Pears’ new Cold War thriller might well be catching a wave. Appearing with Simon Mawer.

Don Paterson 20 August 19:15
Paterson unveils 40 Sonnets. Using the form made famous by Shakespeare doesn’t prevent him from achieving verse that is ambitious and by turns profoundly moving and breathtakingly inspiring.

John Kay 21 August 15:15
Presenting his new book Other People’s Money, the professor of economics explains how the financial world has grown separate from ordinary people to become an industry that talks to itself while handling all our cash.

John Aitchison 22 August 19:15
Aitchison has journeyed to far-off lands to film wildlife for TV, winning a BAFTA and Emmy for his work on Frozen Planet. In The Shark and the Albatross, he tells of his encounters with nature in some wonderfully exotic but downright dangerous zones.

Tessa Hadley 23 August 10:15
The Past is Hadley’s mesmerising account of sibling rivalries during a long summer holiday for an extended family. Appearing with Philip Teir.

Susana Moreira Marques 25 August 14:00
Moreira Marques is fascinated by attitudes to mortality. In Now and at the Hour of Our Death she tells the stories of those who work with and live closely to terminal cancer patients. Appearing with Raymond Tallis.

Petina Gappah 26 August 10:15
Guardian First Book Award-winner Gappah gives us Book of Memory, a novel about an albino woman languishing in a Harare prison. Appearing with Samantha Harvey.

Oscar Coop-Phane 26 August 15:30
Brussels-based Coop-Phane is a rising star of francophone fiction whose Tomorrow, Berlin will appeal to fans of Irvine Welsh and Michel Houellebecq. Appearing with Rob Doyle

David Hare 29 August 18:45
Hare’s notable plays include Plenty, Skylight and The Absence of War. He joins us to discuss his powerful and often very funny memoir, The Blue Touch Paper, which takes him from his days as a student at Oxford through to the 1970s.

Aleksandar Hemon 29 August 19:00
An exile from Bosnia to Chicago in 1992, Hemon’s prose has been likened both to Joseph Conrad and Vladimir Nabokov. He joins us to talk about his brand new novel, The Making of Zombie Wars, the story of an aspiring screenwriter and his relationship tangles as he strives to make a movie.

Abraham Kawa & Alecos Papadatos 29 August 19:00
Kawa and Papadatos have turned their graphic novelists’ attention to Democracy, a book which begins in 490 BC Athens. The result is a vivid depiction of personal upheaval and political transition.

Bill Clegg 30 August 16:00
A respected New York literary agent, Clegg wrote a stunning memoir of his battle with addiction before turning to fiction. Today he launches Did You Ever Have a Family? Appearing with Andrew Miller.

Rory Stewart 30 August 20:15
In The Marches politician Stewart journeys on foot between England and Scotland to discover more about the landscape and memory of a fascinating region once known as the Middleland.

John Banville 31 August 11:45
Banville won the James Tait Black Prize in 1976 for Doctor Copernicus, the Man Booker Prize in 2005 for The Sea, and was nominated for the Man Booker International Prize in 2007. Today we welcome him to Edinburgh to speak for the first time about his new novel, The Blue Guitar – a story of love, treachery and redemption.
Max Porter 31 August 15:30
A strangely gorgeous, tender fable, Porter’s *Grief is the Thing with Feathers* is the London-based editor’s first foray into fiction, and it marks the arrival of a voice in British literature quite unlike any other. Appearing with Jesús Carrasco.

Misha Glenny 31 August 17:30
As host of the Olympics and the World Cup, Brazil seemed destined to become a genuine force in world politics. Misha Glenny went into Brazil’s underworld to study the crime, corruption and power that are driving – and often undermining – the new Brazil. With access to key police officials and the country’s most wanted criminal, the acclaimed journalist reveals Brazil’s battles with its legacies of colonialism and dictatorship.
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday 10 June 2015

BAILLIE GIFFORD COMMITS TO THREE MORE YEARS WITH
THE EDINBURGH INTERNATIONAL BOOK FESTIVAL

Announced today (Wednesday 10 June) Investment Management Company Baillie Gifford will continue to support the Edinburgh International Book Festival for a further three years taking their Lead Sponsorship to 2018.

Nick Thomas of Baillie Gifford says: ‘We’ve been working with the Edinburgh International Book Festival for many years, recognising it as a world-class literary event in our home city. By committing to a further three years of support to the Baillie Gifford Schools and Children’s Programmes along with events in the adult programme we are investing in the future of the Book Festival and hope it continues to inspire readers of all ages.’

The Edinburgh International Book Festival welcomes new partner UBS Wealth Management, whose sponsorship has been match funded by a New Arts Sponsorship Grant supported by the Scottish Government and Arts & Business Scotland. Scotland’s oldest accountancy firm, Scott-Moncrieff has increased its involvement and becomes a Major Sponsor in 2015.

Jura Whisky continues to sponsor the Edinburgh International Book Festival’s late night fiesta, Unbound where authors and musicians come together to create literary musical magic. The Open University in Scotland is sponsoring a cluster of events in the adult programme and hosts its usual Open Day in the Book Festival Bookshop on 22 & 23 August.

Helping to increase the diversity of the Edinburgh International Book Festival by assisting with international author events, Scottish Mortgage Investment Trust continues their Major Sponsorship, as do Walter Scott & Partners who support the 4th annual Frederick Hood Memorial Lecture which this year sees Terry Waite in conversation with James Runcie.

Long-time Major Sponsor Royal Bank of Scotland concentrates on younger readers this year by supporting some events in the Baillie Gifford Children’s Programme and hosting a family day for RBS customers. ScottishPower Foundation sponsors the Library Energiser competition for schools and the ScottishPower Foundation Studio in Charlotte Square Gardens.

The James Tait Black Prizes, Britain’s oldest literary awards, are supported by the University of Edinburgh along with a number of other events in the 2015 Edinburgh International Book Festival. Major sponsor Experian, the leading global information services company, is backing a key event with author Val McDermid in conversation with Nicola Sturgeon, Scotland’s First Minister.

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MEDIA
RELEASE

The other Major Sponsors for the 2015 festival are design company **Tangent, Waterstones** who becomes the Book Festival’s online retail partner and the **Hawthornden Literary Retreat**.

The previously announced partnership with **People’s Postcode Lottery** sees it support a number of events in the Book Festival programme linked to other charities it is involved with including Book Aid International and Maggie’s Centres.

Head of Development for the Edinburgh International Book Festival, Sadie McKinlay commented: “This year’s programme is one of our most ambitious to date, it wouldn’t have been possible without our sponsors and supporters. We are very thankful for not only their financial and in-kind support but the time and resources that they donate to the Book Festival every year. With the help of supportive sponsors, individuals and organisations the Edinburgh International Book Festival continues to be the world’s leading literary festival.”

The Edinburgh International Book Festival receives funding from Creative Scotland and the City of Edinburgh Council and this year welcomes over 900 participants from 55 different countries to Charlotte Square Gardens, and runs from Saturday 15 to Monday 31 August 2015. Entrance to the Gardens is FREE and full details of the programme can be found at [www.edbookfest.co.uk](http://www.edbookfest.co.uk). Tickets to all events go on sale at 8.30am on Tuesday 23 June 2015, online at [www.edbookfest.co.uk](http://www.edbookfest.co.uk), by phone on 0845 373 5888 or in person at the Box Office at the Roxburghe Hotel on George Street (on Tuesday 23 June only, thereafter at The Hub, Castlehill).

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