FEATURING
Susan Calman
David Coulthard
Ruth Davidson
Kate Humble
Alexei Sayle
Alan Titchmarsh
AND A WHOLE LOT MORE...

all roads lead to melrose
where words come alive!
Who's Who

Directors
Michael Moore (Chairman)
Vivian French, Lynsey Graham, Francis Hamilton
James Hutchison, Alistair Moffat
Paula Ogilvie, Susan Windram

Honorary Patrons
Rory Bremner, James Naughtie, Eleanor Updale

Patrons
The Duke and Duchess of Buccleuch
Johannes and Antonia de Gier
Robert and Maxine Sloss

Festival Staff
Olivia McLean - Festival Manager
Mairi MacLellan - Festival Administrator
Hilary Buchan - Web & Social Media
Candy Rafferty - Sponsorship & Fundraising
Esmé Biggar - Marketing & Production

Borders Book Festival is a Company Limited by Guarantee Registered in Scotland Reg. No. SC296476 Scottish Charity No. SC037347

Booking Information

Tickets are available online, by phone and in person

ONLINE: www.bordersbookfestival.org

PHONE: 0131 473 2000

IN PERSON:
Hub Tickets, The Hub, Castlehill, Royal Mile, Edinburgh EH1 2NE

Phone lines and ticket office are open:
Mondays - Saturday, 10.00am - 5.00pm

There will also be a box office on site during the festival (13 - 16 June):
Harmony Garden, St Mary’s Road, Melrose TD6 9LJ

Tickets can be sent as an e-ticket, or collected in person from Hub Tickets. E-tickets must be printed in advance. If you choose to receive your tickets in the post, you will be charged £1 for postage. Please note - there is no booking fee.

Concession tickets (C), where applicable, are available to students, registered disabled (plus one carer), registered unemployed, under 16s and Young Scot cardholders. Proof of entitlement will be required.

Visitors with additional needs: All venues at Harmony Garden and The Orchard have wheelchair access. Please ask for individual venue access details when booking. There is no wheelchair access to The Vintage Mobile Cinema (located on St Mary’s Road between Harmony Garden and the Orchard).

Events are one hour long unless specified. Seating is unreserved.

Latecomers: Events start punctually. Members of the audience may not be admitted after the beginning of events.

Programme details are correct at time of going to press. The Borders Book Festival reserves the right to alter or cancel events. Tickets are non-refundable unless an event is cancelled. Please check the festival website bordersbookfestival.org for the latest news, special events and information.

#bbfmelrose
Welcome to the Baillie Gifford Borders Book Festival 2019

In one marquee David Coulthard will talk of dizzying speed, in another Gordon Buchanan will whisper of stillness as he waits with his camera in the wild, and in a third Susan Calman will make us rock with laughter. That is the unique magic of Harmony Garden when the Borders Book Festival glows for four spellbinding days in June.

Where else will Alexei Sayle follow Dominic Grieve MP, Michaela Strachan and Neil Oliver? Book festivals are about coming together to listen, talk, laugh, gasp, wonder, think and taste the special spice of our cultural mix. In no other format does the world of books and ideas present itself. The sessions of the festival are live and unrepeatable. You have to be there. And if you have read this far, you will be!

This is more than the 15th anniversary of this remarkable event, it is also the 10th year of the Walter Scott Prize. Sponsored, nurtured and constantly renewed by our friends and patrons the Duke and Duchess of Buccleuch, amongst its past winners are Hilary Mantel, Robert Harris and Tan Twan Eng. On Saturday afternoon, we celebrate with the world premiere of Sandy McCall Smith’s operetta, Dandie Dinmont followed by the award of the 10th prize. Join us then, and also meet the literary giants, strong women and sporting heroes of this year’s amazing programme.

None of this would sparkle without the generosity and trust of our title sponsor, Baillie Gifford and our key sponsor, McInroy & Wood, or the steadfast support of Scottish Borders Council and Creative Scotland. And to join our circle of sponsorship support, we welcome the Borders Distillery, Kilgraston School and Border Safeguard. Our new local media partner will be the Border Telegraph and the Peeblesshire News.

Fifteen years feels like a landmark – but you ain’t seen nothing yet. Welcome!

Michael Moore, Chairman
Borders Book Festival

Baillie Gifford

Baillie Gifford, the Edinburgh-based investment manager, is delighted to remain as the Headline Sponsor of what has become one of the country’s leading literary festivals.

We are avid supporters of literary events and currently sponsor 13 festivals taking place across the UK. As well as being headline sponsor of the Baillie Gifford Borders Book Festival, we are also delighted to support a series of non-fiction events where the authors will discuss topics as wide-ranging as politics, history, memoir and adventure.

The Scottish Mortgage Resolute Optimism event this year with Sue Armstrong will explore her new book *Borrowed Time* and the science of how and why we age.

With such a wide-ranging programme on offer for all the family, and the relaxed atmosphere in the Orchard, we hope to see many of you back at Harmony House Garden this year, and we are delighted to be amongst you.

James Budden
Director - Marketing and Distribution, Baillie Gifford

McInroy & Wood

McInroy & Wood is glad once again to be the Key Sponsor of the Borders Book Festival. Our firm’s long history as a supporter of the arts across the UK sits happily alongside a commitment to nurture and participate in the local communities in which we work and live. We are therefore pleased to continue our partnership with Alistair and his team.

The Borders Book Festival has established its own credentials as home to a cultural event of the highest quality. It mirrors, we trust, our own reputation as provider of an investment service that is second to none.

Tim Wood
Chief Executive, McInroy & Wood

National Trust for Scotland

Once again, the National Trust for Scotland is delighted to host the Borders Book Festival in Melrose’s Harmony Garden. The location is particularly apt as one of this year’s guests is Alan Titchmarsh, who I’m told knows a thing or two about gardening. He has also presented three television series on the ‘secrets’ of our sister charity the National Trust. So far, he hasn’t ventured across the border to feature some of the wonderful places we care for but I’m ever hopeful! I’m sure he’ll be impressed with the festival’s setting, the beauty of which depends on the dedication of our volunteers and staff. It’s a fascinating place in which to stage an equally fascinating and varied programme of events, I for one am sure the speakers will give voice to the erudite, profound and entertaining words they have placed on the page.

Sir Moir Lockhead OBE
Chairman, National Trust for Scotland

Sir Moir Lockhead OBE
Chairman, National Trust for Scotland
Welcome to one of Britain’s friendliest book festivals. Get set for a memorable weekend, with more than 100 events for all ages - and entry to Harmony Garden and Orchard is FREE!

The Baillie Gifford Festival Hub
Join us in the Baillie Gifford Festival Hub in Harmony Garden where you will find the festival bookshop and box office. There’s lots of space for browsing, buying and book signings and in the corner kids’ area, children can sit and read, try some colouring in and take part in some fun activities. Don’t forget to pick up your free copy of Trust magazine. The bookshop is open from 10am until late - plenty of time for shopping! We run our own bookshop and all proceeds go directly back to the festival.

Bringing the kids?
Our Family Book Festival offers a wonderful selection of events with some of today’s best-loved authors for children. There are also lots of free activities to enjoy. See the full list of family events on pages 49 - 53.

Some events in the adult programme may also be suitable for children. They will be clearly identified, with the age suitability highlighted, where appropriate.

Young People
We’re supporting talented young local people once more, and this year are working in partnership with Borders Young Creatives (BYC), Youth Music Forum and Borders Youth Theatre (BYT) to provide employment and mentoring opportunities and a platform for young programmers, journalists, musicians and actors to highlight their work. Each year there are highlights include music presented by Sound Cycle, events programmed by BYC, a performance and workshop by BYT and young buskers playing over the weekend. See our events’ pages for more details.

Come to The Orchard for some of the finest food and drink from across the Borders and Scotland. In a giant stretch tent, Hickory Bars will keep the good cheer flowing with their finest beers, wines and craft gins. This year’s offerings for foodies include the welcome return of Alandas Scottish Sea Food and the introduction of Caravan of Courage with their delicious vegan dishes and flatbreads. Regular favourites Crema Caravan from Galashiels will be back with their mouth-watering freshly baked créme brûlées. Treat yourself to a tempting wood-fired pizza from Pizza Geeks, amazing burgers and fries from Meat: Stack or give Dirty Frites’ irresistible crunchy halloumi fries with pomegranate and Middle Eastern spices a whirl.

You can also enjoy a great selection of artisan coffees and aromatic homemade brownies from Linton & Co. Coffee, served from Bernard the Citroen H Van. If you’re short of time between events, then beer, wine and coffee are all available in Harmony Garden.

You don’t have to try the mouth-watering selection of ice creams and sorbets served from ‘Beatrix’ the bicycle. Of course there are all sorts of other treats such as craft gins. This year’s offerings for foodies include the welcome return of Alandas Scottish Sea Food and the introduction of Caravan of Courage with their delicious vegan dishes and flatbreads. Regular favourites Crema Caravan from Galashiels will be back with their mouth-watering freshly baked créme brûlées. Treat yourself to a tempting wood-fired pizza from Pizza Geeks, amazing burgers and fries from Meat: Stack or give Dirty Frites’ irresistible crunchy halloumi fries with pomegranate and Middle Eastern spices a whirl.

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And don’t forget to try the mouth-watering selection of ice creams and sorbets served from ‘Beatrix’ the bicycle.

You can find further information on all our fantastic food and drink suppliers on our website.

Taking the Train or Bus
The journey by train takes less than one hour from Edinburgh to Tweedbank Station - a handy 1.5 miles from the festival site.

If you fancy a nice, 10-minute stroll from the train, just follow the book festival signs to Melrose, but, if you’d rather catch a bus, they run regularly between Tweedbank and Melrose. There are regular trains from Edinburgh Waverley (every 30 minutes at peak times) and you’ll find a link to the ScotRail and Borders Buses timetables in the Getting to Melrose section in the ‘About Us’ tab on www.bordersbookfestival.org

Parking and Important Traffic Information:
There will be a Proclaimers concert taking place in close proximity to the Borders Book Festival site on Saturday 15 June, and as a result there will be significant changes to how vehicles can access the festival drop-off point and Annay Road car park during Saturday evening.

Due to the anticipated high numbers attending the Proclaimers concert, Abbey Street and Annay Road will be closed to all traffic on Saturday 15 June from approximately 5pm until 11pm as it will be pedestrian access only. Therefore, there will be no vehicular access to the book festival drop-off and collection area on Abbey Street/Annay Road during this time.

The book festival team kindly asks that our visitors minimise the requirement for parking by using bus routes, the Borders Railway and Melrose town parking locations.

Also, please note that there will be no public access via the Glantonside end of the Orchard due to a security fence being constructed for the duration of the festival.

As these circumstances are beyond our control, we thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

Please check the festival website for any further updates.

www.bordersbookfestival.org

Parking:
There is NO general parking at the Borders Book Festival. All parking is in Melrose town centre and is in easy reach of the festival venues. There will be minimal parking at Annay Road rugby pitch (around edges of pitch only) during the festival. However, please note that on Saturday 15 June, Abbey Street and Annay Road will be closed after 5pm and there will be vehicle access to this car park until 1pm.

Blue Badge Parking:
Although we do have some limited, weather-dependent, disabled parking for blue badge holders only on St Mary’s Road, we highly recommend using the drop-off point on Annay Road (apart from Saturday evening) where assistance from a member of the festival team will be available.

IMPORTANT Traffic Information:
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MEDIA: You might just come across a TV camera or a large microphone if you’re attending the festival. RADIO BORDERS, ITV BORDERS and VOICE will be with us, interviewing authors, chatting to the public and reporting on events – make sure you’re camera ready, you might end up on the news!

PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEO: The book festival employs a roving photographer and cameraman who will be taking photos and videos of events and visitors for promotional use.

DOGS: We regret that we can’t welcome the four-legged members of your family. Hearing and guide dogs only will be admitted to the festival grounds.
Thursday 13 June

4.30pm  Ursula Buchan: Beyond The Thirty-Nine Steps  Orchard Marquee  13
4.30pm  Border Voices  Buccleuch Marquee  13
4.45pm  Tim Bouverie: Appeasing Hitler  McInroy & Wood Marquee  13
5.45pm - 6.15pm  Scottish Opera : A Little Bit of Iolanthe  Scottish Opera Trailer  14
6.00pm  Animal Families and Me with Gordon Buchanan  Douglas Home Marquee  14
6.00pm  Philippa Perry: The Book You Wish Your Parents Had Read  Orchard Marquee  15
6.15pm  Andrew Brown: Of Peats and Putts  Buccleuch Marquee  16
6.30pm - 8.30pm  Film: The Thirty Nine Steps  Vintage Mobile Cinema  16
6.45pm - 7.15pm  Scottish Opera : A Little Bit of Iolanthe  Scottish Opera Trailer  16
7.30pm  Kate Humble  Douglas Home Marquee  17
7.30pm  James Crawford: Scotland from the Sky  Orchard Marquee  17
7.45pm  Will McCallum: How to Give Up Plastic  McInroy & Wood Marquee  18
7.45pm  Suzie Wilde: Obsidian  Buccleuch Marquee  18
8.00pm - 8.30pm  Scottish Opera : A Little Bit of Magic Flute  Scottish Opera Trailer  18
9.00pm  Rory Bremner  Douglas Home Marquee  18
9.15pm  Stephen Hendry  McInroy & Wood Marquee  19
9.15pm - 10.30pm  Kaela Rowan Duo  Orchard Marquee  19
9.15pm  The Adventures of Maud West - Lady Detective  Buccleuch Marquee  19
Friday 14 June

1.30pm  Mixed Form Yoga  Douglas Home Marquee  20
1.30pm  Kim Jones: 222 Ways to Trick Yourself to Sleep  Buccleuch Marquee  20
1.30pm - 4.00pm  Massage Therapy Drop-In Sessions  Davidson Chalmers Storytelling Tent  20
3.00pm  Guided Meditation  Douglas Home Marquee  21
3.00pm  Eve Simmons and Laura Dennison: Fight the Food Fads  McInroy & Wood Marquee  21
3.00pm  Ricky Monahan Brown: Stroke  Buccleuch Marquee  21
4.30pm  Bob Champion  Douglas Home Marquee  22
4.30pm  Andrew Kerr: How the Great War at Sea Ended  Orchard Marquee  22
4.45pm - 6.15pm  Scottish Opera : A Little Bit of Magic Flute  Scottish Opera Trailer  23
6.00pm - 12.15pm  Go Wild with Abbotsford  Abbotsford Teepee  23
6.00pm  Neil Oliver  Douglas Home Marquee  24
6.00pm  David Solomons: Doctor Who - The Secret in Vault 13  Orchard Marquee  24
6.15pm  Emily Dodd: Crime Squirrel Investigators  Scottish Opera Trailer  24
6.30pm - 8.30pm  Scottish Opera : A Little Bit of Magic Flute  Scottish Opera Trailer  25
7.30pm  Jon Titchmarsh  Douglas Home Marquee  25
7.30pm  Chris Mullin: The Friends of Harry Perkins  McInroy & Wood Marquee  25
7.45pm  Kirsty Wark  McInroy & Wood Marquee  26
7.45pm  Michaela Strachan  Douglas Home Marquee  26
8.00pm - 8.30pm  Scottish Opera : A Little Bit of Iolanthe  Scottish Opera Trailer  27
9.00pm  Gregory Townsend  McInroy & Wood Marquee  27
9.15pm - 10.30pm  Sound Cycle Presents: Magpie Blue  Orchard Marquee  27
9.15pm  Anne Griffin: When All Is Said  Buccleuch Marquee  29

Saturday 15 June

10.15am  Draw Your Own Mystery with Anders Frang  Buccleuch Marquee  30
10.15am - 10.45am  Bookbug Rhyme Session  Davidson Chalmers Storytelling Tent  30
10.15am - 11.15am  Go Wild with Abbotsford  Abbotsford Teepee  30
10.30am  One Button Benny  Orchard Marquee  30
10.45am  Dragons and Wizards with Cressida Cowell  McInroy & Wood Marquee  30
11.00am - 11.30am  Storytelling / Bookmaking the Superpower Agency Way!  Buccleuch Marquee  31
11.45am - 12.15pm  Bookbug Rhyme Session  Davidson Chalmers Storytelling Tent  31
12.00pm - 12.45pm  Dandi Dimmont  Douglas Home Marquee  31
12.00pm - 12.45pm  Chae Strathie: So You Think You’ve Got it Bad?  Orchard Marquee  31
12.15pm  Ian Robertson  McInroy & Wood Marquee  31
12.45pm  Lara Prior-Palmer  McInroy & Wood Marquee  32
1.15pm - 2.30pm  The Walter Scott Prize  Douglas Home Marquee  32
1.45pm - 2.30pm  The Walter Scott Prize  Douglas Home Marquee  32
1.45pm  Lara Prior-Palmer  McInroy & Wood Marquee  32
1.45pm  Deep Sea Voyagers!  Buccleuch Marquee  32
2.15pm - 4.15pm  Get Crafty with Robert Small’s Printing Workshop  Davidson Chalmers Storytelling Tent  32
3.00pm  Neil Oliver  Douglas Home Marquee  33
3.00pm  David Solomons: Doctor Who - The Secret in Vault 13  Orchard Marquee  33
3.15pm  Chris Mullin: The Friends of Harry Perkins  McInroy & Wood Marquee  33
3.15pm  Emily Dodd: Crime Squirrel Investigators  Buccleuch Marquee  33
4.30pm  Michaela Strachan  Douglas Home Marquee  33
4.30pm  Natalie Haynes: Troy Story  Orchard Marquee  33
4.45pm  Ollie Ollerton: Break Point  McInroy & Wood Marquee  34
4.45pm  Leah Hazard: Hard Pushed  Buccleuch Marquee  34
4.45pm - 6.00pm  Zine-Making Workshop  Davidson Chalmers Storytelling Tent  34
6.00pm  Dominic Grieve  Douglas Home Marquee  35
6.00pm - 7.15pm  Activising for Change: 147Hz Can’t Pass  Orchard Marquee  35
6.15pm  Kate Williams: Rival Queens  McInroy & Wood Marquee  35
6.15pm  JO Morgan  Buccleuch Marquee  35
6.30pm - 8.30pm  Film: Burke and Hare  Vintage Mobile Cinema  35
7.30pm  Jan Ravens: Who Do I Think I Am?  Douglas Home Marquee  35
7.45pm  John Lanchester  McInroy & Wood Marquee  36
7.45pm  Caroline Eden: Black Sea  Orchard Marquee  36
7.45pm  Rosemary Goring  Buccleuch Marquee  36
9.00pm  Alexei Sayle  Douglas Home Marquee  36
9.15pm  David Wilson: My Life with Murderers  McInroy & Wood Marquee  36
9.15pm  Chris Brookmyre & Marisa Haetzman  Orchard Marquee  36
9.15pm  Jules Horne: Rebel Cello - Spoken Word + Music  Buccleuch Marquee  36
Sunday 16 June

11.15am
Disco Yoga
McInroy & Wood Marquee

12.30pm
Fintan O’Toole: Heroic Failure
Douglas Home Marquee

12.30pm
David Solomons: My Cousin is a Time Traveller
Orchard Marquee

12.30pm
My Uncle has a Unicorn, My Auntie has an Ant
Davidson Chalmers Storytelling Tent

12.30pm - 4.45pm
Go Wild with Abbotsford
Abbotsford Teepee

12.45pm
Sue Armstrong: Borrowed Time
McInroy & Wood Marquee

12.45pm
Borders Youth Theatre: Tales of Beatrix Potter
Buccleuch Marquee

2.00pm
Alexander McCall Smith
Douglas Home Marquee

2.00pm
Karine Polwart & Kate Leiper: A Wee Bird was Watching
Orchard Marquee

2.00pm
Tom & Tallulah and the Witches’ Feast
Davidson Chalmers Storytelling Tent

2.15pm
Chris Lloyd: Absolutely Everything!
McInroy & Wood Marquee

2.15pm
Easy Peasy: Real Cooking for Kids
Buccleuch Marquee

3.30pm
Allan Little
Douglas Home Marquee

3.30pm
MG Leonard: Beetle Mania
Orchard Marquee

3.30pm
You’re Hired! Jobs for Monsters with Justin Davies
Davidson Chalmers Storytelling Tent

3.45pm
Amanda Owen: The Yorkshire Shepherdess
McInroy & Wood Marquee

3.45pm
Daddy Frog and the Moon
Buccleuch Marquee

5.00pm
Susan Calman
Douglas Home Marquee

5.00pm
Launch of 2019 First Minister’s Summer Reading List
Orchard Marquee

5.00pm
Gulliver’s Travels in Historical Fiction
Davidson Chalmers Storytelling Tent

5.15pm
Giles Milton: D - Day
McInroy & Wood Marquee

5.15pm
Charlotte Runcie
Buccleuch Marquee

6.30pm
Ruth Davidson
Douglas Home Marquee

6.30pm
Sonia Purnell: A Woman of No Importance
Orchard Marquee

6.30pm
Film: She
Vintage Mobile Cinema

6.45pm
Melanie Reid: The World I Fell Out Of
McInroy & Wood Marquee

6.45pm
Bill Jones: Black Camp 21
Buccleuch Marquee

8.00pm
David Nott: The McInroy & Wood Lecture
Douglas Home Marquee

8.00pm
Damian Barr
Orchard Marquee

8.15pm
Jan Ravens: A Funny Look at Impressions
McInroy & Wood Marquee

8.15pm
Davy Zyw: 101 Champagnes
Buccleuch Marquee

Ursula Buchan: Beyond the Thirty-Nine Steps
Orchard Marquee | 4.30pm | £11, £9

The Thirty-Nine Steps, never once out of print for a hundred years, perhaps the world’s most famous thriller and regularly reinterpreted on screen, is John Buchan’s most famous novel. Beyond the Thirty-Nine Steps, A Life of John Buchan lays a vast and fascinating hinterland; the life of a scholar, member of parliament, an imperial proconsul, a director of wartime propaganda and much else. With access to unpublished family papers, Ursula Buchan has written a brilliant biography of her grandfather. A deeply admired and loved Governor General of Canada who was given a state funeral, Buchan’s early life was an unlikely prelude. Raised in the Gorbals, the son of a Free Church minister, he was at ease with shepherds and ambassadors, fur trappers and prime ministers. In this luminous account of a fascinating man, Ursula brings him alive.

Border Voices on Coast and Countryside
Buccleuch Marquee | 4.30pm | £6

Borders Writers Forum returns to Borders Book Festival to launch their latest anthology. Enjoy a mix of prose, poetry and non-fiction extracts as Forum members read from their contributions to the sixth Borders Writers Forum anthology: Border Voices on Coast and Countryside. Contributors include well-known local writers, Anita John, Robert Leach, Tom Murray, Jane Pearn and Margaret Skea.

Tim Bouverie: Appeasing Hitler
McInroy & Wood Marquee | 4.45pm | £13, £11

On a wet afternoon in September 1938, Neville Chamberlain stepped off an aeroplane, waved a piece of paper and said that his visit to Adolf Hitler had averted the greatest crisis in recent memory. A year later, Germany invaded Poland. Using newly discovered sources and deep archival research, Tim Bouverie has written a compelling new narrative of the disastrous years of indecision, failed diplomacy and Parliamentary infighting that enabled Nazi domination of Europe. It is an unforgettable portrait of the ministers, aristocrats and amateur diplomats who, through their actions and inaction, shaped Britain’s policy and determined the fate of Europe.
A Little Bit of Iolanthe
Scottish Opera Trailer
5.45pm – 6.15pm | £10, £8

Pop-Up Opera is back on the road in 2019 with its brilliant shows for audiences of all ages. Played in a specially-adapted trailer, each performance is brought to life by a storyteller, two singers, musicians and a series of colourful illustrations. Iolanthe is banished by the Fairy Queen for marrying a mortal. Now, 25 years later, two worlds again collide when her son announces he is in love. Unfortunately, his beloved is a popular girl and he has some serious competition… Light-hearted satire at its best, Gilbert & Sullivan’s Iolanthe is full of fun.

NOTE: limited spaces

Philippa Perry:
The Book You Wish Your Parents Had Read
Orchard Marquee | 6.00pm | £11, £9

Renowned psychotherapist Philippa Perry’s game-changing The Book You Wish Your Parents Had Read (and Your Children Will Be Glad That You Did) is destined to redefine the way we raise our kids. In it, Philippa shows how strong and loving bonds are made with your children and how such attachments give a better chance of good mental health, in childhood and beyond. Almost every parent loves their children, but by following Philippa’s refreshing, sage and sane advice, you will also find yourselves liking one another too.

Animal Families and Me with Gordon Buchanan
Douglas Home Marquee | 6.00pm | £15, £13

Have you got any burning wildlife questions? BBC TV wildlife presenter and cameraman Gordon Buchanan has travelled the planet - from South America, Asia and Africa to Papua New Guinea, Russia and Alaska - and will definitely have some interesting answers! This is a show for any wildlife enthusiast who wants to enjoy the spellbinding stories of the natural world from a man who has experienced danger face to face. Animal Families and Me promises a unique opportunity to hear personal recollections of his globetrotting travels, as Gordon Buchanan delves into his world of weird and wonderful wildlife all illustrated with his own film footage and photography. With a reputation for relishing dangerous and tough assignments, his tales of challenging expeditions make for a thrilling evening not to be missed.

McInroy & Wood Marquee | 6.15pm | £13, £11

By day Matt Chorley works in parliament, trying to explain what is happening in politics for The Times. By night, he admits nobody has a clue and nothing makes any sense at all. Join him for an hilarious insider’s guide to resignations, reshuffles and recriminations - and reassurance that it doesn’t have to be this way. thetimes.co.uk/redbox

“Matt is vying with George Osborne for this year’s hotly-contested ‘Theresa May Sycophant of the Year’ award.” Theresa May

“Engaging, funny, well-informed, entertaining - you’d think he’d done it before. He hasn’t.” Rory Bremner

“Get back to work.” The Times
Andrew Brown: Of Peats and Putts
Buccleuch Marquee | 6.15pm | £8, £6

Andrew Brown found it astonishing that no author had sought to bring together Scotland’s two greatest gifts to the world – golf and whisky. Of Peats and Putts: A Whisky and Golf Tour of Scotland is a personal journey of discovery. In ten chapters, Andrew travels from Sutherland to East Lothian, reviewing golf courses and locally distilled whisky. This little book is a joy, a celebration of landscape and people. “Both whisky and golf are more than just a drink and a sport, both can be seen as metaphors for the vagaries of life itself”. Exactly!

FILM AT THE FESTIVAL

The Thirty Nine Steps (1978)
Vintage Mobile Cinema | 6.30pm
£10 (ticket is for film only)
Stars: Robert Powell, David Warner & Eric Porter
This movie needs little introduction and is generally regarded as the closest to the book by John Buchan, being set at the same time as the novel was, in pre-Great War 1914. The story follows a mining engineer named Richard Hannay who tries to prevent Prussian agents from executing a political assassination designed to trigger world war I.

Running time: 1h 42min / Certificate: PG

Ursula Buchan discusses her grandfather John Buchan’s life and work: 13 June at 4.30pm

A Little Bit of Iolanthe
Scottish Opera Trailer | 6.45pm – 7.15pm | £10, £8
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NOTE: limited spaces

Kate Humble
Douglas Home Marquee | 7.30pm | £15, £13

In Thinking on my Feet: The small joy of putting one foot in front of another, Kate has written a glorious ode to the life-changing magic of the simple act of walking. Through a single year and all of its seasons, Kate makes a delightful companion in this lovely book - fast-flowing, yet at every turn giving the reader pause for thought. Her words are full of sunshine and the raw pleasure she radiates in encountering life in its many unexpected forms. This book is a joy!

The Baillie Gifford Series

James Crawford:
Scotland From the Sky
Orchard Marquee | 7.30pm | £11, £9

In this book, you will travel in both space and time, starting in the years around the First World War and moving up to the present day. You will see just what our pioneering aviators saw as they stared out from their cockpits. Accompanying the BBC documentary series, Scotland from the Sky, this lavishly illustrated book draws on the vast collection of aerial photography held in the archives of Historic Environment Scotland. James Crawford opens an extraordinary window into our past to tell the remarkable story of a nation from above – taking readers back in time to show how our great cities have dramatically altered, while whole communities have vanished in the name of progress. The book demonstrates how the view from above has been at the heart of the post-war transformation of both our countryside and our urban landscapes. This is the story of Scotland, from the sky.
Suzie Wilde: Obsidian
Buccleuch Marquee | 7.45pm | £8, £6

Suzie Wilde is an absorbing storyteller and in the second book of the Bera trilogy, she builds on the wonderful narrative of Sea Paths, the opening novel in this sequence of stories about the lives and beliefs of the Norse people. Bera is a Viking seer who has made up of billions of individual acts. This is a call to arms - to join forces across the world and to end our dependence on plastic.

Will McCallum: How to Give Up Plastic
McInroy & Wood Marquee | 7.45pm | £13, £11

In his Guide to Changing the World, One Plastic Bottle at a Time, Will McCallum, the Head of Oceans at Greenpeace UK, has written a fascinating, alarming book about how we are polluting our oceans. Around 12.7 million tonnes of plastic are entering the ocean every year, killing over 1 million seabirds and 100,000 marine mammals. By 2050 there could be more plastic in the ocean than fish by weight. It is the environmental scourge of our age, but how can YOU make a difference? This accessible guide will help you make the small changes that make a big difference, from buying a reusable coffee cup to running a cleanup at your local park or beach. Plastic is not going away without a fight: We need a movement made up of billions of individual acts. This is a call to arms - to join forces across the world and to end our dependence on plastic.

A Little Bit of Magic Flute
Scottish Opera Trailer
8.00pm – 8.30pm | £10, £8

Pop-Up Opera is back on the road in 2019 with its brilliant shows for audiences of all ages. Played in a specially-adapted trailer, each performance is brought to life by a storyteller, two singers, musicians and a series of colourful illustrations. Tamino is in love with Pamina, the daughter of the mysterious Queen of the Night. When she is abducted, he sets off to rescue her but soon realises all is not quite as it seems. A beguiling mix of comedy, fantasy and pantomime, Mozart’s The Magic Flute is also a profound story of the search for love, wisdom and truth.

NOTE: limited spaces

Rory Bremner
Douglas Home Marquee | 9.00pm | £15, £13

Through the brilliance of his impressions and observations, Rory reprises and updates his sell-out show from last year as he brings the world to Harmony Garden. Old and familiar friends will make cameo appearances. Donald Trump will doubtless reflect on fake nooz, walls and no collusion - or at least not much. And the mayhem of Brexit will, for once, make us smile. And also think. A gifted comedian, Rory is also an astute judge not only of people but also politics.

Stephen Hendry
McInroy & Wood Marquee | 9.15pm | £13, £11

One of Scotland’s greatest sporting heroes, world snooker champion a record-breaking seven times, Stephen’s fascinating autobiography reveals the man behind the legend. Me and the Table charts a journey from an upbringing in Edinburgh to a purple patch from March 1990 to January 1991 when he won five titles and was unbeaten in thirty-six consecutive matches, a feat yet to be repeated. At fifteen, Stephen became the youngest ever Scottish amateur snooker champion, taking on the giants of the game such as Alex Higgins and Jimmy White. In 2012, he retired after losing in the quarter-finals of the world snooker championship. Charting the highs and lows, and Hendry’s current role as a sports pundit and commentator, this is a compelling insight into the man who is widely regarded by fans and experts alike as one of the greatest snooker players of all time.

Kaela Rowan Duo
Orchard Marquee | 9.15pm – 10.30pm | £11, £9

Since the days of groundbreaking world music group ‘Mouth Music’, Kaela Rowan has forged a fascinating musical path, gathering influences from her extensive travels around the globe, particularly India. She is known for her unique approach to the Scottish tradition and enjoys unusual instrumentation and vocal improvisation. Much in demand for her uniquely beautiful voice, she has shared the stage with the likes of Dick Gaughan, Eddi Reader and Eliza Carthy and now tours and records with Scottish Celtic fusion band, Shooglenifty. In her duo, Kaela partners up with James Mackintosh, Shooglenifty and Transatlantic Sessions’ acclaimed drummer, percussionist and guitar player. Whilst remaining faithful to the traditional songs, they explore the hypnotic rhythmic cycles of Gaelic waulking songs and interweave ballads with mesmeric harmony.

The Adventures of Maud West, Lady Detective
Buccleuch Marquee | 9.15pm | £13, £11

One of society’s finest for more than thirty years. Her exploits grabbed headlines throughout the world but, beneath the public persona, she was forced to hide vital aspects of her own identity in order to thrive in a class-obsessed and male-dominated world. With walk-on parts by Dr Crippen, Dorothy L. Sayers, Parisian gangsters and continental blackmailers, this excellent biography is both a portrait of a woman ahead of her time and a deliciously salacious glimpse into the underbelly of ‘good society’ during the first half of the twentieth century.
Friday 14 June
Bailie Gifford Borders Book Festival 2019
Box Office: 0131 473 2000 / www.bordersbookfestival.org

Health & Wellbeing at the Festival

Last year saw the introduction of our popular health and wellbeing mini-festival. Join us on Friday afternoon for an even bigger range of talks, classes and therapy sessions to inspire us to get fit, eat well and feel good!

Mixed Form Yoga
Douglas Home Marquee | 1.30pm | £10
Join Braxton for a mixed form yoga session incorporating Hatha, Yin and Flow Yoga. This practice will leave you feeling both relaxed and energised. Braxton’s unique sessions combine peaceful music, breath along with asanas, balancing the mind and body, reducing stress and anxiety, increasing circulation and flexibility. Suitable for newcomers as well as the more experienced.

Bring your own yoga mat.

Kim Jones: 222 Ways to Trick Yourself to Sleep
Buccleuch Marquee | 1.30pm | £10
When was the last time you had a proper night’s sleep? In today’s fast-paced, non-stop world, research by the UK’s Sleep Council has found that almost a third of us don’t get enough sleep most nights. Insomnia can wreak havoc on everyday life – leaving us feeling exhausted, irritable and unwell. Lack of sleep is also linked to a host of medical conditions including type 2 diabetes, heart disease, obesity and depression. In her new book, health journalist Kim Jones trawls through the findings of sleep experts, researchers and physicians to share hundreds of simple, science-backed, practical tips to trick yourself into achieving a good night’s sleep. This is an invaluable toolkit for the sleep-deprived and might just change your night life forever.

Massage Therapy Drop-In Sessions
Davidson Chalmers Storytelling Tent
1.30pm – 4.00pm
Prices vary depending on treatment
Massage therapy works to promote healing and enhance overall wellbeing. There are many forms of massage therapy, each with its own benefits. Why not try out some of the short treatments available to help you learn which type of massage might be right for you? Sessions vary in price and duration. No advance bookings.

Guided Meditation
Douglas Home Marquee | 3.00pm | £10
Braxton’s guided meditation uses music, soundscapes and spoken word to guide you into a calming meditative space. His sessions are very much about accessibility to all and a no-nonsense communication. A chance to introduce yourself to meditation or gain a more thorough understanding of it. In this guidance, we work on the breath to calm the pace of the thoughts, before we bring some focus to empathy, knowledge, judgment and awareness, simply allowing us to release tension and worry, and bring a calmer state to our life. Bring your own yoga mat.

Ricky Monahan Brown: Stroke
Buccleuch Marquee | 3.00pm | £8, £6
The day after losing his job, Ricky, aged just 38, suffers a catastrophic haemorrhagic stroke. Fortunately, his girlfriend Beth is nearby. A few minutes later, the unconscious Ricky is wheeled into Brooklyn’s Methodist Hospital with a 5% chance of survival, and worse odds of any type of good outcome. Beth begins an eight-week vigil, grabbing an occasional nap on a waiting room floor. Then Hurricane Sandy does to New York what the haemorrhage did to Ricky’s brain. Amid the rubble of a battered city, a major brain injury and lost jobs, Beth and Ricky start planning for a future together back home in Scotland. Written with searing honesty this is an inspirational story with a fascinating, and unexpected, ending.

Eve Simmons and Laura Dennison: Fight the Food Fads
McInroy & Wood Marquee | 3.00pm | £10
The perils of ‘Fake News’ are well known when it comes to current affairs; but have you ever considered the damage it could be doing to our health and relationship with food? Armed with knowledge from the world’s leading diet and nutrition experts, two hungry women sort the nonsense from the fact and inject some long-lost deliciousness back into the conversation. No one is saying healthy eating is bad and in their book Eat it Anyway Eve Simmons and Laura Dennison, co-founders of the website Not Plant Based, want to help you love food again in spite of any misleading information around. The principle is simple: eat what you like and don’t worry about it. This is a game-changing narrative for anyone who struggles to find a balance between healthy and happy, empty and full. Food is so much more than just healthy eating: it’s family, friends, enjoyment and memories.
Bob Champion
Douglas Home Marquee | 4.30pm | £15, £13
Bob talks with Richard Pitman about his amazing autobiography I'm Champion, Call Me Bob. Bob will talk to Richard about his early life, his path to becoming a professional jump jockey and how it felt being at the top of his game only to have it come crashing down with a life-threatening diagnosis. It remembers the depths of despair as he went through a radical new cancer treatment and the heights of joy with that famous Grand National victory. This new biography also looks at the whirlwind adventure his life has been since that glorious spring day at Aintree and examines the tremendous fundraising efforts of the Bob Champion Cancer Trust.

Andrew Kerr:
How the Great War at Sea Ended
Orchard Marquee | 4.30pm | £11, £9
In terms of the Armistice of 1918, the best ships of the German High Seas Fleet were to be disarmed and thereafter interned to await allocation to the Allied navies. Andrew Kerr will talk about battleships, battlecruisers and the operation of the British Grand Fleet before describing how the German ships were met, 50 miles east of the Isle of May, and escorted into the Firth of Forth, thereafter being interned at Scapa Flow. There, almost exactly 100 years ago, they were scuttled by their crews. A booklet about the war at Sea, and a leaflet about the Surrender and Internment of the High Seas Fleet, both beautifully illustrated, will be available at the talk.

Clare Hunter:
Threads of Life
McInroy & Wood Marquee
4.45pm | £13, £11
Clare Hunter has created a beautifully considered book that reminds us how sewing plays a crucial part in expressing the many facets of our lives. A BBC Radio 4 Book of the Week, it is an eloquent history that spans centuries and continents, taking us to Mary Queen of Scots in captivity, to the damaged soldiers returning from the trenches of World War One and to the grieving mothers of the Disappeared of 1970s Argentina. Threads of Life: A History of the World Through the Eye of a Needle is an arresting, moving chronicle of identity, protest, memory, power and politics – from the Bayeux Tapestry to our own Great Tapestry of Scotland.

Elizabeth Macneal:
The Doll Factory
Buccleuch Marquee | 4.45pm | £8, £6
This debut novel won the Caledonian Novel Award and was a BBC Radio 4 Book at Bedtime and a Radio 2 Book Club Choice. It brings to life 1850s London in all its grime and glory and is the intoxicating story of a young woman who aspires to be an artist, and the man whose dark obsession may destroy her world forever. Part love story, part gothic novel and a page-turning psychological thriller, this beautifully researched historical novel is tipped to be one of the biggest titles of 2019. Unmissable.
David Coulthard
Douglas Home Marquee | 6.00pm
£15, £13

One of the top British racing drivers of his generation, David competed in 247 Grand Prix, winning 13 of them and finishing on the podium on 62 occasions. In 2001 he was runner-up in the World Championship. Since hanging up his racing gloves in 2008 he has become a successful entrepreneur, whilst also continuing to cover F1 as a commentator and analyst. In The Winning Formula, David opens the doors to the secretive world of F1 to look at subjects such as teamwork, motivation and leadership, and how the strategies required to be a winner in the world of Formula 1 can be applied to business and life in general. This is an unmissable event.

Walter Scott Prize Shortlist
Orchard Marquee | 6.00pm | £11, £9

In 2019 six superb historical novels have been chosen and some of their authors will be in Melrose to talk about their work. Samantha Harvey with The Western Wind, Andrew Miller with Now We Shall Be Entirely Free and Robin Robertson with The Long Take, with others to be announced. Check the website for further confirmation.

When the Dogs Don’t Bark
A Forensic Scientist’s Search for the Truth
McInroy & Wood Marquee | 6.15pm | £13, £11

One of the world’s leading forensic scientists, she has helped solve many high-profile cases such as the killings of Stephen Lawrence, Damilola Taylor, Rachel Nickell and Roberto Calvi. She comes to the festival to talk about her fascinating memoir When the Dogs Don’t Bark: A Forensic Scientist’s Search for the Truth. “Finding the right answers is what forensic science is all about. What often matters even more, however, is asking the right questions”, she wrote. Never before has criminal justice rested so heavily on scientific evidence and over forty years of experience, from her first crime scene in a case that involved the Yorkshire Ripper, to her latest investigations, Professor Gallop has seen tremendous change. Far more fascinating than fiction, her cases and how she reached her conclusions make for riveting stories.

My Sh*t Therapist & other mental health stories
Buccleuch Marquee
6.15pm | £8, £6

When writer Michelle Thomas suffered her first major depressive episode in 2013, she read, watched and listened to everything she could get her immaculately manicured hands on in an effort to fix herself. But it was tedious, painfully earnest, bone-dry material, that read more like messages of condolence than support. Frankly, it was depressing, which is the last thing she needed. Now, this is her riposte. From medication and therapy to mates and dates, My Sh*t Therapist offers advice and tricks to help you navigate the world and understand the social constructs that can contribute to mental ill health. It also shares the contents of Michelle’s mental health toolbox to show you how she prepares for the storm in moments of calm. Full of hilarious conversations and relatable anecdotes, this is an honest account of living with mental illness and a fresh, fierce and funny addition to the ongoing conversation about mental health.

Angela Gallop: A Forensic Scientist’s Search for the Truth
McInroy & Wood Marquee | 6.15pm | £13, £11

One of the world’s leading forensic scientists, she has helped solve many high-profile cases such as the killings of Stephen Lawrence, Damilola Taylor, Rachel Nickell and Roberto Calvi. She comes to the festival to talk about her fascinating memoir When the Dogs Don’t Bark: A Forensic Scientist’s Search for the Truth. “Finding the right answers is what forensic science is all about. What often matters even more, however, is asking the right questions”, she wrote. Never before has criminal justice rested so heavily on scientific evidence and over forty years of experience, from her first crime scene in a case that involved the Yorkshire Ripper, to her latest investigations, Professor Gallop has seen tremendous change. Far more fascinating than fiction, her cases and how she reached her conclusions make for riveting stories.
Alan Titchmarsh

Douglas Home Marquee | 7.30pm | £15, £13

To describe Alan as a National Treasure would not do his talents justice. A gardener, a poet, an excellent and innovative TV presenter, a writer of non-fiction and a novelist, he is an immensely creative and empathetic man. Such a richness of ability might be scary but in Alan, readers and viewers have found a friend. In fact, there is a rumour that his waxwork at Madame Tussauds has to have lipstick smudges wiped off every fortnight. His memoir Nobbut a Lad: A Yorkshire Childhood was written from the heart. Alan comes to Melrose to talk about his new novel The Scarlet Nightingale, a thrilling wartime tale of the London blitz and espionage in occupied France. It is a page-turner.

Jon Plowman: How to Produce Comedy Bronze

Orchard Marquee | 7.30pm | £11, £9

A pillar of British TV comedy royalty, Jon has had a stellar career, producing strings of hits from A Bit of Fry and Laurie to the Vicar of Dibley to four series of Absolutely Fabulous. He has inspired performers such as Mel Smith, Griff Rhys Jones, Dawn French, Jennifer Saunders, David Walliams, Matt Lucas and dozens of others. Now he has produced a book. In what is surely an ironic title, How to Produce Comedy Bronze, Jon lifts the bonnet of the comedy industry so that readers can peer inside. After a career of thirty years, he shares a wealth of knowledge before he becomes completely demented and forgets how to do it.

Kirsty Wark

McInroy & Wood Marquee | 7.45pm | £13, £11

Following the success of The Legacy of Elizabeth Pringle, Kirsty has written an intense, beautiful and atmospheric new novel. The House by the Loch is an idyllic setting, a holiday home by the shores of Loch Doon in Galloway for two generations of a family which lives in the long shadow of the past. Over one fateful, sunlit weekend, everything seems to change as clouds gather and lives are turned upside down. The House by the Loch is a story of family life in all its loving complexity, and the way it can, and must, remake itself endlessly in order to make peace with the past. This is without doubt one of the novels of the year and it is launched at the Borders Book Festival.

Richard Pitman

Buccleuch Marquee | 7.45pm | £8, £6

At 76, Richard Pitman has lived a life more eventful and exhilarating than most. A retired jump jockey, he rode 470 winners in his career and 4000 losers, including Crisp in the 1973 Grand National where he was pipped to the post by the legendary Red Rum. After jockeying for 15 years he joined the BBC where he spent 35 years as an interviewer and presenter on TV horse racing while also writing for, among others, the Sunday Express and Horse and Hound. He has also written a dozen books, many of them thrillers set in the world of horse racing. A gifted raconteur, Richard talks very amusingly about his life and work - this event is sure to be an odds-on favourite with fans of the life equestrian and great storytelling alike.
**A Little Bit of Iolanthe**
Scottish Opera Trailer
8.00pm – 8.30pm | £10, £8

Pop-Up Opera is back on the road in 2019 with its brilliant shows for audiences of all ages. Played in a specially-adapted trailer, each performance is brought to life by a storyteller, two singers, musicians and a series of colourful illustrations. Iolanthe is banished by the Fairy Queen for marrying a mortal. Now, 25 years later, two worlds again collide when her son announces he is in love. Unfortunately, his beloved is a popular girl and he has some serious competition… Light-hearted satire at its best, Gilbert & Sullivan’s Iolanthe is full of fun.

**NOTE:** Limited spaces

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**James Naughtie**
Douglas Home Marquee | 9.00pm | £15, £13

The political turmoil is greater than we’ve known in peacetime. Chaos and division over Brexit, a party system across the UK that’s creaking at the seams, and constitutional strains that will shape the next phase of politics, not least in Scotland. And, across the Atlantic, many Americans are saying much the same about their own system, and their own president. How did we get here, and where are we bound? A moment to spend time with James Naughtie, who for more than a generation has been in the thick of these arguments as a journalist. Jim’s sell-out talks have become one of the highlights of the Borders Book Festival. This year’s is not to be missed.

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**Gregor Townsend**
McInroy & Wood Marquee | 9.15pm | £13, £11

On the afternoon of 17th March half of Scotland was on their feet in front of the TV, shouting, whooping, and roaring on Scotland as they scored six tries against England at Twickenham after being 31-0 down after 30 minutes – the greatest comeback since Lazarus! What did the coach say to his players at half time? Perhaps Gregor will tell us when he talks about coaching the national side, about prospects for the World Cup and as he reflects on a playing career that began with Gala in 1990 and spanned the transition to the professional era. An outstanding, gifted, mercurial player, Gregor is also an inspirational coach.

A donation will be made to My Name’5 Doddie Foundation by Borders Book Festival.

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**Soundcycle Presents:**
**Magpie Blue**
Orchard Marquee | 9.15pm -10.30pm | £9

Magpie Blue is a uniquely talented singer-songwriter who plays acoustic guitar and uses a loop pedal to achieve an amazing sound. Originally from Peebles, she began writing at the age of fourteen and has been performing ever since, with live performances on BBC Radio Scotland’s Janice Forsyth Show and support slots for Dougie Maclean and Karine Polwart. With the help of her loop stations she creates layers of alternative, acoustic melodies. Her influences are an eclectic mix of sounds ranging from The Smiths to the likes of Alt-J and Bombay Bicycle Club. Known for her impressive depth and range of voice, she has been compared to a young Laura Marling and KT Tunstall.

Magpie Blue will be supported by current members of Soundcycle.

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**Anne Griffin:**
When All Is Said
Buccleuch Marquee 9.15pm | £8, £6

Anne Griffin’s novel is a phenomenon. It rocketed to number one in the Irish bestseller lists. At the bar of a grand hotel in a small Irish town sits 84-year-old Maurice Hannigan. He’s alone, as usual - though tonight is anything but that. Pull up a stool and charge your glass, because Maurice is finally ready to tell his story. Over the course of this evening, he will raise five toasts to the five people who have meant the most to him. Through these stories - of unspoken joy and regret, a secret tragedy kept hidden, a fierce love that never found its voice - the life of one man will be powerfully and poignantly laid bare. Heartbreaking and heart-warming all at once, the voice of Maurice Hannigan will stay with you long after all is said.

This session is sponsored by The Borders Distillery who will treat you to a dram of their Lower East Side Blended Malt Scotch Whisky so that you can raise a glass with Maurice.
Saturday 15 June

Bailie Gifford Borders Book Festival 2019
Box Office: 0131 473 2000 / www.bordersbookfestival.org

Ian Robertson
McInroy & Wood Marquee
12.15pm | £13, £11

Ian comes to Melrose to talk about his superb Rugby: Talking a Good Game, 47 Years of Fun with the BBC. His dour Edinburgh accent is instantly recognisable to rugby fans all over the world. Since 1976 he has been the voice of rugby for the BBC both on radio and television. His commentary on Jonny Wilkinson’s world cup winning drop goal has become iconic. Ian was also an international rugby player, appearing six times for Scotland until his career was cut short by a knee injury. In this autobiography, published to coincide with his retirement, Ian reflects on a career commentating on the sport he loves, reliving the highs and lows of the last forty years in rugby union.

Dandie Dinmont
Douglas Home Marquee | 12.00pm – 12.45pm | £5

The Borders Book Festival is delighted to host the world premiere of an operetta written by Alexander McCall Smith with music composed by Tom Cunningham and directed by artistic director Alan Borthwick and musical director David Lyle. The performance will help celebrate the 10th year of the Walter Scott Prize for Historical Fiction and what could be more appropriate than taking the character of Dandie Dinmont from Scott’s novel Guy Mannering and weaving a story and music around it? Four wonderful professional opera singers will be supported by Dandie’s children - eight pupils from Melrose Primary School. Come and join in the celebrations!

The Walter Scott Prize
Douglas Home Marquee | 1.45pm – 2.30pm | £5

Founded and sponsored by the Duke and Duchess of Buccleuch, the Walter Scott Prize for Historical Fiction is at once a glorious celebration of Scott’s invention of the historical novel and also a source of continuing encouragement to writers in that enormously popular genre. With £25,000 to the winner and £1,000 to all who are shortlisted, it can be life and career changing. Past winners have included Hilary Mantel, Robert Harris, Andrea Levy and Tan Twan Eng. The winner of the 2018 prize, Benjamin Myers, who saw his name on 30 million postmarks congratulating him, announced that he would use some of the prize money to go to Iceland to see a Guns n’ Roses concert!

“What a feast of exceptional writing has been showcased in Melrose in the 10 years since the founding of the Walter Scott Prize and my wife and I are more grateful than we can say to brilliant authors, brave judges and passionately engaged readers who have made it so hugely worthwhile. Through the alchemy of historical fiction we have, together, crossed centuries and continents and met a cast of characters who I am sure have touched us all in some way or another. This year marks the 200th anniversary of the publication of Ivanhoe, the most widely read and known of all Sir Walter’s novels and as we celebrate the 10th anniversary of the prize with panache, we will think back on our local genius who set it all in motion. Please join us for a day of spirited theatrical blending that promises entertainment, enlightenment and a good deal of emotion.”

The Duke of Buccleuch

The 2019 Shortlist

Peter Carey
Cressida Connolly
Samantha Harvey
Andrew Miller
Michael Ondaatje
Robin Robertson

WWW.BORDERSBOOKFESTIVAL.ORG
Lara Prior-Palmer

McInroy & Wood Marquee | 1.45pm | £13, £11

The Borders Book Festival delights in bringing you remarkable and unlikely stories and few are more extraordinary than *Rough Magic*. The Mongol Derby is the world’s toughest horse race. A feat of endurance across the vast Mongolian plains once traversed by the people of Genghis Khan, competitors ride 25 horses across a distance of 1000km. Many riders don’t make it to the finish line. In 2013 Lara Prior-Palmer – nineteen, underprepared but seeking the great unknown – decided to enter the race. Driven by her own restlessness, stubbornness, and a lifelong love of horses, she raced for seven days through extreme heat and terrifying storms, catching a few hours of sleep where she could at the homes of nomadic families. Battling bouts of illness and dehydration, exhaustion and bruising falls, she found she had nothing to lose and tore through the field with her motley crew of horses. In one of the Derby’s most unexpected results, she became the youngest-ever champion and the first woman to win the race. Told with terrific suspense and style, in a voice full of poetry and soul, *Rough Magic* is the extraordinary story of one young woman’s encounter with oblivion, and herself.

Sponsored by Ian Stark Equestrian Centre

Neil Oliver

Douglas Home Marquee | 3.00pm | £15, £13

A brilliant communicator, a gifted TV presenter and an eternally curious historian, Neil has distilled all of his talents into a tour de force. *The Story of the British Isles in 100 Places* is superb. It is Neil’s very personal account of what makes these islands so special, told through the places that have witnessed the unfolding of our history. Beginning with footprints made in the sand by humankind’s earliest ancestors, he takes us via Romans and Vikings, the flowering of religion, through civil war, industrial revolution and two world wars. From windswept headlands to battlefields, ancient trees to magnificent cathedrals, each of his destinations is a place where, somehow, the spirit of the past seems to linger.

Sponsored by The Border Distillery

Chris Mullin: The Friends of Harry Perkins

McInroy & Wood Marquee | 3.15pm | £13, £11

A Very British Coup was a wonderful political thriller about a Labour prime minister called Harry Perkins, memorably played by Ray McAnally in a superb TV series. Written by an insider, it seemed all too plausible. Chris was Labour MP for Sunderland South from 1987 to 2010 and since his retirement a sequel has been brewing. At last we have *The Friends of Harry Perkins*: In a near-future, post-Brexit Britain, the fault lines forged in the white heat of the referendum have become entrenched features of British political life. Britain’s standing in the world has steadily diminished as its problems have grown. Into the maelstrom steps Fred Thompson, former aide to left-wing Prime Minister Harry Perkins. Now read on. And you won’t stop until you reach the last page!

Michaela Strachan

Douglas Home Marquee | 4.30pm | £15, £13

One of Britain’s most loved television presenters, BAFTA award-winning Michaela Strachan has been a regular face on our screens with BBC Two’s Springwatch, Autumnwatch and Winterwatch. She will be joining us straight from the final filming of the current run of Springwatch, to share funny anecdotes and behind the scenes highlights from this series with her trademark infectious enthusiasm. Although Michaela is now probably best known for regularly presenting wildlife programmes, fans from the 80s will remember fondly when she fronted ‘The Wide Awake Club’, and the cult late night show ‘The Hitman And Her’.

Natalie Haynes: Troy Story

Orchard Marquee | 4.30pm | £11, £9

Star of the BBC Radio 4 series Natalie Haynes Stands Up for the Classics, Natalie brings her unique combination of ancient history and stand-up comedy to take you on a tour around the Trojan War, the setting for her latest novel *A Thousand Ships*. From the causes of the Trojan War (divine displeasure) to its complex aftermath, this show encompasses some of the greatest poetry ever written: *The Iliad*, *The Odyssey*, *The Oresteia*, *The Trojan Women* and much more. The stories of the women affected by the war have been largely untold, but Natalie takes them out of the shadows and places them where they belong: at the heart of the story.
Ollie Ollerton: Break Point
McInroy & Wood Marquee | 4.45pm | £13, £11
As a former Special Forces soldier and a member of the team who star in Channel 4’s hit series SAS: Who Dares Wins, Ollie Ollerton knows better than most about break points – those moments of self-doubt where we have to dig deep and find something within. After completing the gruelling SAS selection process, Ollie joined the Special Boat Service where his missions included hostage rescue, counter narcotics, counter terrorism and humanitarian work. Ollie has faced break points in his personal life too, from his battles with alcohol and drug addiction, anxiety and depression. His final redemption as a TV star, corporate training entrepreneur and mental health charity ambassador for StrongMen has seen him overcome adversity to build a new life, one that he believes is worth living. Through it all, Ollie’s incredible story has taught him one thing: everyone has the capacity for immense achievement, because it’s only when it’s crunch time, when you’re down to your last bullet – when you’re at break point – that you find out who you really are.

Leah Hazard: Hard Pushed
Buccleuch Marquee | 4.45pm | £8, £6
Leah Hazard is a serving NHS midwife. In Hard Pushed she writes of life at the front line of the maternity ward. No sleep for twenty hours. No food for ten. And a ward full of soon-to-be mothers...welcome to the life of a midwife. Leah’s experience on the NHS front line, working within a maternity system at breaking point, is more extreme than you could ever imagine. From the bloody to the beautiful, from moments of vulnerability to remarkable displays of human strength, from camaraderie to raw desperation, from heart-wrenching grief to the pure, perfect joy of a newborn baby, Leah has seen it all. This is an utterly engrossing, inspiring, funny, passionate and candid piece of writing - a love letter to new mothers and to Leah’s fellow midwives.

Zine-Making Workshop with Chris Timmins
Davidson Chalmers Storytelling Tent
4.45pm - 6.00pm | £6
Come and learn how to make your very own zine with Chris! Zines are small, self-made magazines and can be about anything you want, so get your thinking caps on and come up with some potential themes for your zine. Feel free to bring along any magazines or images you have at home to cut up and use to make your zine - we will have some available at the workshop too!
Suitable for adults and over 14s

Dominic Grieve
Douglas Home Marquee | 6.00pm | £15, £13
Few politicians have emerged from the maelstrom of Brexit with more dignity and credit than Dominic Grieve. Conservative MP for Beaconsfield since 1997, he served as Attorney General for England and Wales in the last coalition government. He talks to Festival Chairman Michael Moore about the Brexit process, about what lies behind the extraordinary convulsions of the last three years and what may lie ahead.

Activising for Change: 147Hz Can’t Pass
Orchard Marquee | 6.00pm - 7.00pm | £9, £7
This is not BBC Three or Channel 4. It’s young people in bedrooms googling at three in the morning. It’s the free falling, stomach churning sensation of staring rejection in the face. It’s seeing yourself for the first time. 147Hz Can’t Pass is a celebration of queer experience and an introduction through person not definition to trans non-binary gender identity. A calculated mess of movement, energy, spoken word and slam style poetry. Humanising the marginalised and sensationalised, to ask will you walk this road with me?
Emerging theatre maker Ink Asher Hemp has developed this piece as part of the Scottish Youth Theatre Making Space Programme. This performance is in partnership with Borders Young Creatives. Supported by Live Borders

Kate Williams: Rival Queens
McInroy & Wood Marquee | 6.15pm | £13, £11
The perfect combination of scholarship and storytelling, meticulous research and emotional insight, Kate Williams, in Rival Queens brings Mary, Queen of Scots vividly to life in all her complexities and contradictions. Along with Elizabeth I of England, the two powerful monarchs on a single island are both threatened by voices who believe no woman can govern. Both are surrounded by sycophants, spies and detractors, accosted for their dominion, their favour and their bodies. Besieged by secret plots, devastating betrayals and a terrible final act, only one queen can survive to rule all.
J.O. Morgan
Buccleuch Marquee
6.15pm | £8, £6

J.O. Morgan is the winner of the 2018 Costa Poetry Award with his latest work Assurances, a war poem both historical and frighteningly topical. The work is based on the experiences of Morgan’s father, an RAF officer who was involved in maintaining Britain’s Airborne Nuclear Deterrent and begins in the 1950s during a period of vigilance and dread in the middle of the Cold War: the long stand-off between nuclear powers, where the only defence was the threat of mutually assured destruction. Assurances is an intimate, dramatic work for many voices; lyrical, anxious, fragmentary and terrifying. It’s a poem about the nuclear stalemate, the deterrent that is still in place today: how it works and how it might fail, and what will vanish if it does. This is a moving and compelling read from Borders-based Morgan, one of the most interesting poets to have emerged in Scotland in recent years.

Supported by The Doctor David Summers Charitable Trust

Jan Ravens:
Who Do I Think I Am?
Douglas Home Marquee
7.30pm | £15, £13

Jan Ravens is best known as the star of BBC’s Dead Ringers. Her Theresa May impression has achieved cult status, getting over one million hits on YouTube. She is also known for being Fiona Bruce, Diane Abbott, Laura Kuenssberg and countless others. In a soul-baring new show, Jan weaves her critically acclaimed impressions into an exploration of what it feels like to be a professional impostor with impostor syndrome. Who Do I Think I Am? is a touching tale of identity, authenticity and loss, which will make you laugh and lift your heart.

Caroline Eden:
Black Sea
Orchard Marquee
7.45pm | £11, £9

Caroline Eden tells the tale of a journey between three great cities – Odessa in Ukraine, built on a dream by Catherine the Great, through Istanbul, the fulcrum balancing Europe and Asia, and on to tough, stoic, lyrical Trabzon in north-eastern Turkey. With a nose for a good recipe and an ear for an extraordinary story, Caroline travels from Odessa to Bessarabia and on to Romania, Bulgaria and Turkey’s Black Sea region, exploring their interconnecting culinary cultures. From meeting the last fisherwoman of Bulgaria, to tracing the legacies of the White Russian émigrés in Istanbul, Caroline charts a totally fresh course while giving readers a unique insight into a part of the world that is both shaded by darkness and illuminated by light. Meticulously researched, and like no other piece of travel writing, Black Sea is a biography of a region, its people and its recipes. Packed with vivid photographs, it documents unprecedented meetings with remarkable individuals and features recipes inspired by meals, meetings and literature. A wonderful tour de force.
In Scotland Her Story: The Nation’s History by the Women Who Lived It, Rosemary offers a strikingly new slant. Scotland’s history has been told many times, but never exclusively by its women. This book takes a unique perspective on dramatic national events as well as ordinary life, as experienced by women down the centuries. From the saintly but severe medieval Queen Margaret to today’s first minister Nicola Sturgeon, it encompasses women from all stations of class, fame and notoriety, offering a tantalising view of what happened to them and how they felt. Drawing on court and kirk records, exchequer rolls and treasurer’s accounts, diaries and memoirs, chapbooks and newspapers, government reports and eyewitness statements, Scotland Her Story brings to life the half of history that has for too long been hidden or ignored.

One of Britain’s greatest stand-up comedians, Alexei was a key figure in the alternative comedy movement of the 1980s, the MC at the Comedy Store and the leading performer at the Comic Strip. He starred in The Young Ones alongside Ade Edmondson, Rik Mayall, Nigel Planer and Christopher Ryan, and from 1988 to 1998, he had his own TV series. In two volumes of autobiography, Stalin Ate My Homework and Thatcher Stole My Trousers, Alexei writes about his parents - Joe, an affable trade unionist who led the family on railway expeditions across eastern Europe, and Molly, a hot-tempered redhead who terrified teachers and insisted Alexei see the Red Army Choir instead of the Beatles - and his unlikely path to becoming a comedian. These are stories of class and comedy, politics and love and this is a rare and unmissable appearance by one of Britain’s comedy greats.

A celebration of today’s Border Scots language and landscape with writer and musician Jules Horne. Get to know the Borders as you’ve never seen them before, in this Fringe-style cabaret of performance poetry, spoken word stories, supernatural ballads and stand-up cello. Meet the Kist Bride of Abbotsford and the Reiver Wife of Aikwood. Discover aye mooth, unconformity, the Stow Row, nanonovels and the secretly edgy life of the Borderlands. Jules is a double Fringe-First-winning playwright and indie publisher, now living near Kelso. She survived the punk era at Hawick High School with the help of her cello spike.

Storytelling genius Chris Brookmyre and his wife Dr Marisa Haetzman, a consultant anaesthetist, have formed Scotland’s newest crime-writing partnership. Writing under the nom de plume Ambrose Parry, they have penned The Way of All Flesh, a gripping tale of medicine and murder on the streets of 19th century Edinburgh. And we offer two for the price of one. Chris has also written a new stand-alone novel, Fallen Angel, a dark story of one family, two holidays and a devastating secret. Expect a lively and entertaining conversation as Chris and Marisa discuss these two riveting novels.

Subtitled, Behind Bars with the World’s Most Violent Men, Professor David Wilson’s new book is fascinating and surprising. Britain’s leading criminologist, he has spent his professional life working with violent men - especially men who have committed murder. Aged twenty-nine, he became the UK’s youngest ever prison governor and his career since then has seen him sitting across a table with all sorts of killers: sometimes in a tense interview; sometimes sharing a cup of tea (or something a little stronger); sometimes looking them in the eye to tell them that they are a psychopath. Some of these men became David’s friends; others would still love to kill him.
Sunday 16 June
Bailie Gifford Borders Book Festival 2019
Box Office: 0131 473 2000 / www.bordersbookfestival.org

Disco Yoga
McInroy & Wood Marquee | 11.15am | £10, £6
A fun, dance-based yoga session that combines disco dancing with easy yoga poses set to 70s disco music. Disco Yoga is great fun for all ages, from seven to seventy...and beyond. Start your Sunday morning with a smile and get ready for a BLAST!

Bring your own yoga mat.
Suitable for all ages, but under 16s must be accompanied by an adult.

Fintan O’Toole: Heroic Failure
Douglas Home Marquee | 12.30pm | £15, £13
Frantically, desperately, almost all of us are seeking to understand Brexit. Why is our country tearing itself apart? Why are we living through the most divisive, embittered political atmosphere in any of our lifetimes? Heroic Failure supplies some answers. It is a brilliant analysis of what lies beneath the slogans, the entrenched positions and dull thud of prejudice. Subtitled Brexit and the Politics of Pain, Fintan’s fierce, funny and smart book unpacks the delusional thinking and sets it in a historic context. Most modern British heroics are screw-ups, retreats or disasters: the charge of the Light Brigade, the doomed Franklin expedition to find the Northwest Passage, Scott of the Antarctic, Gordon of Khartoum, the flight from Dunkirk. The parallels with Brexit are obvious, but the problem is that the cult of heroic failure was developed precisely in an empire that could afford to play up its failures because it was so successful. Its pathos becomes bathos in a post-imperial world. Failure is no longer heroic - it is just failure. And this is just a brilliant book, simple as that.

Sue Armstrong: Borrowed Time
McInroy & Wood Marquee | 12.45pm | £13, £11
The size of the ageing population is rising, posing problems thought to be as great as climate change. Life expectancy at birth for the global population has gone up from just 48 years in 1955 to more than 71 years today, and the very elderly are the fastest growing segment of the population. But why and how do we age? There are a myriad competing theories, from the idea that our bodies simply wear out with the rough and tumble of living, like well-worn shoes or a rusting car, to the belief that ageing and death are genetically programmed and controlled. There is even a growing number of scientists who believe that ageing is a disease to be cured, and that we might even ‘cheat death’ altogether. In Borrowed Time, science writer Sue Armstrong tells the story of the quest to understand ageing and to prevent or delay the crippling conditions so often associated with old age.

Borders Youth Theatre: Tales of Beatrix Potter
Buccleuch Marquee | 12.45pm | £6
Adapted by John Haswell, directed by Amanda Glasgow and Oli Bisset
Beatrix Potter’s charming tales of Jemima Puddleduck and Jeremy Fisher are brought to life by young performers from across the Scottish Borders. The performances will be followed by a short drama workshop ‘taster’ session for young audience members age 7 years and up. Please note that children up to age 12 should be accompanied by an adult.
Suitable for adults and age 7+

Alexander McCall Smith
Douglas Home Marquee | 2.00pm | £15, £13
At last year’s festival, the main marquee rocked with laughter as Sandy riffed on everything from Edinburgh’s social strata (for some reason the location of the Association of Scottish Nudists in Moray Place seemed to sum up it all up) to life in Botswana. This year he will talk of South Edinburgh and the latest Isabel Dalhouse novel The Quiet Side of Passion. Sandy has also brought back the hero of My Italian Bulldozer, Paul Stewart, who moves to rural France to complete a book about food. He goes to live in a house not far from Pottiers, in a village whose one eating establishment happens to be The Second Worst Restaurant in France. And by no means finally, a new series is launched. The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo introduced us to ‘Scandi noir’ Now, welcome to Alexander McCall Smith’s world of Scandi blanc… meet Detective Ulf Varg in The Department of Sensitive Crimes. And don’t fail to meet the author who creates them all.
Absolutely Everything!
McInroy & Wood Marquee | 2.15pm | £10, £6
Join bestselling non-fiction author Christopher Lloyd on his latest and greatest voyage. Using a giant 8m-long timeline as a backdrop, and his signature coat of many pockets, he stops off at 15 defining moments that have shaped all history to demonstrate how science, nature and history connect in this fast-paced, entertaining and incredibly informative history of the world, from the beginning of time to the present day. With engaging design, illustrations, photographs, timelines and maps in every chapter, whether you are aged 7 or 107 there is no better way to understand the big questions about our planet, animals, and the people inhabiting Earth. Absolutely Everything! looks set to become a classic.

Suitable for adults, families and age 7+

Amanda Owen: Adventures of the Yorkshire Shepherdess
McInroy & Wood Marquee | 3.45pm | £13, £11
Now a Sunday Times bestselling author, Amanda Owen loves her traditional life on her hill farm alongside her nine free range children and husband Clive. And, as viewers of Channel 5’s Our Yorkshire Farm will know, every day at Ravenseat brings surprises. In Adventures of the Yorkshire Shepherdess Amanda takes us from her family’s desperate race to save a missing calf to finding that her bra has been repurposed as a house martin’s nest, and from wild swimming to the brutal winter of 2018 that almost brought her to her knees. Busy as she is with her family and flock, an exciting new project soon catches her eye… Funny, evocative and set in a remote and beautiful landscape, this event with Amanda in conversation with Sally Magnusson will delight anyone who has hankered after a new life in the country.

Allan Little
Douglas Home Marquee | 3.30pm | £15, £13
Why does war exert such a magnetic pull on the imagination of the young, and young men in particular? BBC Special Correspondent Allan Little has spent much of his working life reporting on conflicts - from Iraq and Libya to Bosnia, Congo and Sierra Leone. In this very personal reflection, he draws on fiction, poetry and memoir as well as personal experience, to explore what it is that draws so many to risk their lives. What is it that they are seeking? Do they ever find it? And, if they survive, what have they learned when they try to return to ordinary life?

Susan Calman
Douglas Home Marquee | 5.00pm | £15, £13
Sunny Side Up: a story of kindness and joy is Susan’s second book. She danced her way across our screens and into our hearts for more than ten weeks on Strictly Come Dancing 2017 and not only had a wonderful time but also radiated happiness. How has this ability to find joy changed her life? This is her Calmanifesto of happiness. Susan’s enthusiasm at being on Strictly Come Dancing was an inspiration to all of us. Cheer Up Love, Susan’s first book, had a clear aim: to help people understand depression. Sunny Side Up has a similarly clear path: to persuade people to be kinder to each other and spread more joy.
Giles Milton
D-Day: The Soldiers’ Story
McInroy & Wood Marquee | 5.15pm | £13, £11

Giles Milton has compiled the definitive boots-on-the-ground account of the greatest invasion in history. Seventy-five years have passed since D-Day, the greatest seaborne invasion in history. The outcome of the Second World War hung in the balance on that chill June morning. If Allied forces succeeded in gaining a foothold in northern France, the road to victory would be open. But if they could be driven back into the sea, the invasion would be stalled for years, perhaps forever.

Giles Milton’s bold new history narrates the day’s events through the tales of survivors from all sides: the teenage Allied conscript, the crack German defender and the French resistance fighter. From the military architects at Supreme Headquarters to the young schoolboy in the wehrmacht’s bunkers, D-Day: The Soldiers’ Story lays bare the absolute terror of those trapped in the front line of Operation Overlord. It also gives voice to those hitherto unheard - the French butcher’s daughter, the Panzer Commander’s wife and the chauffeur to the General Staff.

Charlotte Runcie
Salt on Your Tongue
Buccleuch Marquee | 5.15pm | £8, £6

Salt on Your Tongue is a lyrical exploration of the sea, how it inspires art, music and literature and how it connects us. Charlotte Runcie has always felt pulled to the sea, lured by its soothing, calming qualities but also enlivened and inspired by its salty wildness. In her new book, Charlotte explores what the sea means to us, and particularly what it has meant to women through the ages. It is a walk on the beach with Turner, with Shakespeare, with the Romantic Poets and shanty-singers. It’s an ode to our oceans – to the sailors who brave their treacherous waters, to the women who lost their loved ones to the waves, to the creatures that dwell in their depths, to beachcombers, swimmers, seabirds and mermaids. In mesmerising prose, Charlotte Runcie shows how the sea has inspired, fascinated and terrified us. Navigating through ancient Greek myths, poetry, shipwrecks and Scottish folktales, Salt on Your Tongue is about how the wild untameable waves can help us understand what it means to be human.

Ruth Davidson
Yes She Can
Douglas Home Marquee | 6.30pm | £15, £13

In Ruth Davidson’s Yes She Can we meet world-beating women from fields as diverse as science, politics, the military, business and sport. They share their own journeys to the top – whether that’s becoming prime minister, winning an Olympic gold medal or teaching male special forces how to fight. Women interviewed for the book include Theresa May, Martha Lane Fox, Laura Kuenssberg, Melinda Gates, Tina Brown, Katherine Grainger, Sue Black, Christine Lagarde and Sandi Toksvig. They share the bad times too, the challenges faced and difficulties to hurdle, explaining what they’ve learned along the way. We also see the author’s own path as she reveals the struggles she’s faced in her past, both mental and physical, and how she has overcome them. Revealing, inspiring, informing, Yes She Can takes personal stories and deftly weaves them into an equalities’ manifesto for the modern age, a timely rallying call to make the life lessons of this book a reality for generations to come.

Sonia Purnell:
A Woman of No Importance
Orchard Marquee | 6.30pm | £11, £9

This is a wonderful, utterly compelling and highly unlikely story brilliantly told by Sonia Purnell. Virginia Hall was an American who infiltrated occupied France during the Second World War for the Special Operations Executive and became the Gestapo’s most wanted spy. Defying odds of all sorts, including having a wooden leg, Hall supplied crucial intelligence which helped the French Resistance and, later, the Allied invasion force. Bold, clever and determined, this remarkable woman refused to allow her disability and her gender to define her, and instead led a highly dangerous double life as an expert spy.
On Good Friday, 2010, Melanie Reid fell from her horse, breaking her neck and fracturing her lower back. She was 52. Paralysed from the top of her chest down, she was to spend almost a year in hospital, determinedly working towards gaining as much movement in her limbs as possible, and learning to navigate her way through a world that had previously been invisible to her. As a journalist Melanie had always turned to words and now, on a spinal ward peopled by an extraordinary array of individuals who were similarly at sea, she decided that writing would be her lifeline.

The World I Fell Out Of is an account of that year, and of those that followed. It is the untold ‘back story’ behind Melanie’s award-winning ‘Spinal Column’ in The Times Magazine and a testament to ‘the art of getting on with it’.

Bill Jones: Black Camp 21
Buccleuch Marquee | 6.45pm | £8, £6

After the D-Day invasion in June 1944, more than 250,000 war-hardened German POWs had been sent back to camps in Britain. Around 70,000 of them were classified as ‘black’ prisoners - SS fanatics who had sworn to fight on until death. The most dangerous were transported to a camp, which still stands today, near Comrie in Perthshire. It became known as Camp 21 and the truly shocking events that climaxxed here in December 1944 provided the inspiration for this thrilling novel.

You Will Be Safe Here is a shocking and deeply moving novel of connected parts. Inspired by real events, it uncovers a hidden colonial history and present-day darkness while exploring our capacity for cruelty and kindness.

You Will Be Safe Here
Orchard Marquee | 8.00pm | £11, £9

This is a remarkable story and one that will move many, even to tears. For more than twenty-five years, David Nott has taken unpaid leave from his job as a general and vascular surgeon with the NHS to volunteer in some of the world’s most dangerous war zones. From Sarajevo under siege in 1993, to clandestine hospitals in rebel-held eastern Aleppo, he has carried out life-saving operations and field surgery in the most challenging conditions, and with none of the resources of a major London teaching hospital. Driven both by compassion and passion, the desire to help others and also the thrill of extreme personal danger, he is now acknowledged to be the most experienced trauma surgeon in the world. But slowly David began to realise that flying into a catastrophe – whether war or natural disaster – was not enough. Local doctors needed to learn how to treat the appalling injuries that war inflicts upon its victims. Since 2015, his foundation has trained other doctors in the art of saving lives threatened by bombs and bullets. War Doctor is his extraordinary story.

You Will Be Safe Here
Orchard Marquee | 8.00pm | £11, £9

This is the brilliant debut novel from the award-winning author of Maggie & Me. South Africa, 1901, the height of the second Boer War. Sarah van der Watt and her son are taken from their farm by force to Bloemfontein Concentration Camp where, the English promise: they will be safe. Johannesburg, 2010. Sixteen-year-old outsider Willem just wants to be left alone with his books and his dog. Worried he’s not turning out right, his ma and her boyfriend send him to New Dawn Safari Training Camp. Here they ‘make men out of boys’. Guaranteed. You Will Be Safe Here is a shocking and deeply moving novel of connected parts. Inspired by real events, it uncovers a hidden colonial history and present-day darkness while exploring our capacity for cruelty and kindness.

Science writer Sue Armstrong discusses the science behind how and why we age: 16 June at 12.45pm
Davy Zyw: 101 Champagnes
Bucleuch Marquee
8.15pm | £10
In a glorious finale to the festival, Davy will talk about 101 Champagnes and Other Sparkling Wines To Try Before You Die. He includes prosecco, cava and other fizz favourites. The UK's love for all drinks sparkling and fizzy shows no sign of abating! Sparkling wine sales have increased by 76% in the last 5 years, and whatever your tipple, a delicious glass of fizz is no longer restricted to special anniversaries or occasions but is drunk all year round. This new book from wine expert David Zyw is sure to become the definitive guide to the best fizz available. Samples included - cheers!

Jan Ravens: A Funny Look at Impressions
McInroy & Wood Marquee | 8.15pm | £13, £11
The star of BBC’s Dead Ringers chats about the history and the future of impressions and satire, with many of her best loved characters making appearances along the way. Have you ever wondered whether there were impressions before there were mass media? Who was the first celebrity impressionist? Who met their death as the result of an impression? Can satire bring down the government? What did prime minister Sir Robert Walpole do in 1737 to shut up the satirists and impressionists? Catch Jan while you can. With a comedian recently being elected President in Guatemala, it’s maybe only a matter of time before she gets the call from Downing Street…

Welcome to an action-packed weekend of amazing tales, fabulous facts, spectacular surprises and LOTS of laughter!
Sat 15 & Sun 16 June
Entry to Harmony Garden and Orchard is FREE
Come and explore the Orchard – it’s a beautiful, family-friendly space where children and adults can relax and have some fun. There’s space to play, free activities and our food village serves a range of food and drink for both adults and children.

There are hundreds of books for all ages and tastes in our Festival Bookshop in Harmony Garden. Feel free to browse and in the kids’ corner, children can sit and read, or try some colouring in.

There is NO entry charge for adults accompanying children to Family Book Festival events.

A HUGE thank you to illustrator Jill Calder and Bloomsbury Publishing for allowing us to use the illustrations from new book The Sea for our welcome page and background artwork in the Family Book Festival programme.

All accompanying adults go free!
Dragons and Wizards with Cressida Cowell
McInroy & Wood Marquee | 10.45am
£6 | Age 7-12
Meet multi-million-copy selling, award-winning author Cressida Cowell, creator of the How to Train Your Dragon (also a DreamWorks film and TV franchise) and The Wizards of Once series. Cressida will talk about her latest book, The Wizards of Once: Knock Three Times, as well as How to Train Your Dragon, her inspiration and she’ll give tips on becoming an author or illustrator. The Wizards of Once won the Blue Peter Book Award and Cressida has won numerous other prizes including the Ruth Rendell Award for Championing Literacy. She’s been an ambassador for the National Literacy Trust for over a decade. Unmissable!

Storytelling and Bookmaking the Superpower Agency Way!
Buccleuch Marquee | 11.45am – 1.15pm | £6 | Age 8-12
This Storytelling and bookmaking workshop is a chance for a group of young people to participate in an interactive, high-energy writing workshop. Working in collaboration with volunteers, participants will craft an illustrated story from scratch, creating original characters and plots using the power of their imagination. Once the collaborative story reaches its climax, participants will separate and write their own ending.

Storytime
Davidson Chalmers Storytelling Tent
11.00am – 11.30am | FREE | All Ages
Join Mark Timmins for a great collection of magical, funny and captivating stories from your best loved writers. Especially suited to 3-10s. No tickets required.

Vivian French & Catherine Rayner: Hello, Horse
Orchard Marquee | 1.30pm | £6 | Age 5+
Come and hear Catherine Rayner and Vivian French talk about working together to immortalise Catherine’s wonderful horse, Shannon. Catherine will draw pictures, and Vivian ask for ideas for a new story... altogether a treat for anyone who loves horses!

Deep Sea Voyagers!
Buccleuch Marquee | 1.45pm | £6 | Age 7-11
Join JJ Calder, acclaimed illustrator of The Sea, for a deep sea adventure! Wave cheers to seagulls nicking your chips and jump in a yellow submarine, diving through miles of coral... down into the deepest, darkest sea trench. On your journey you’ll meet many beautiful and strange creatures from the clowns of the air to the ever-hungry guppyleel, discovering and drawing them all as you descend through the depths.
This fantastic voyage ends with everyone joining together to create a monster deep-sea drawing!

Zine-Making Workshop
with Chris Timmins
Buchanan Marquee | 3.15pm | £6 | Age 3 – 6
Rosie’s secret hazelnut store has been ransacked and her best friend Charlie agrees to help her to find the naughty nut thief! Get set for a fun and fact-filled event with Emily Dodd where you can learn about the different ways animals eat nuts along the way, with songs, science, woodpecker hip-hop and a water squirting squirrel.
Sunday 16 June
Box Office: 0131 473 2000
www.bordersbookfestival.org

BOOK LAUNCH EVENT

- **David Solomons: My Cousin is a Time-Traveller**
  Orchard Marquee | 12.30pm | £6 | Age 7 - 12
  First there was My Brother is a Superhero, then came My Gym Teacher is an Alien Overlord, My Evil Twin is a Supervillain and My Arch Enemy is a Brain in a Jar. Now brace yourself for the explosive finale in the side-splittingly funny, multi-award-winning series, My Cousin is a Time-Traveller. It’s superhero business as usual as Luke, Zack and the rest of the gang must contend with a toaster that wants to take over the world, and the most dangerous book in the universe. GASPI as you discover the real reason superheroes wear capes: GET OVEREXCITED as you help create an original superhero character.

- **Karine Polwart & Kate Leiper: A Wee Bird was Watching**
  Orchard Marquee | 2.00pm | £6 | Age 4 - 8
  A young girl finds her mother settle in the woods for a night’s sleep after a long and tiring journey. But who will keep them safe from harm? A wee bird is watching from the trees. And he knows just what to do. A vividly illustrated telling of a folk tale that speaks of themes of displacement, migration and protection. Join award-winning singer-songwriter Karine Polwart and illustrator Kate Leiper for some magical storytelling and songs to find out how the robin got its red breast.

- **Tom & Tallulah and the Witches’ Feast**
  Davidson Chalmers Storytelling Tent | 2.00pm | £6 | Age 7+
  Festival favourite Vivian French bring us the story of Tallulah Tickle and her little brother Tom, who have a big problem. Their grandmother, a kind and caring witch, is turning into a chicken, but which witch from the Charmed Circle is to blame? And can Tallulah – the worst cook ever – cook up a storm to save the day? Come and find out… and draw your very own witch!

- **Easy Peasy: Real Cooking for Kids**
  Buccleuch Marquee | 1.15pm | £6 | Age 8 – 13
  Prepare to change your life! In their new book, Easy Peasy Real Cooking for Kids, Mary Contini and Pru Irvine will help you transform your kitchen into a home-cooking heaven. A fun-filled hour of food talk, blind tastings, a quiz and cooking tips for budding chefs. Yum!

- **Daddy Frog and the Moon**
  Buccleuch Marquee | 3.45pm | £6 | Age 2 – 5
  Daddy Frog is determined to show Baby Frog how to catch the moon. He begins a giant 8m-long timeline as a backdrop, and steps into Scotland’s only job agency for monsters to answer these important questions: where do mermaids work? What job would suit a cyclops? How does a cyclops earn his money? To answer these important questions, join Justin Davies, author of Help! I Smell a Monster, and step inside Scotland’s only job agency for monsters! Discover how Justin came up with his cast of monsters and learn why he thinks writing funny stories can help change the world. You might even find yourself being interviewed for a monster job.

- **MG Leonard: Beetle Mania**
  Orchard Marquee | 3.30pm | £6 | Age 8 – 12
  Discover the amazing world of insects with MG. Leonard, author of bestselling Beetle Bay, Beetle Queen, Battle of the Beetles and her latest book The Beetle Collector’s Handbook, as she shares her passion for creepy crawlies, reveals fascinating facts about insect life cycles and explains why beetles are important to the environment. An hour packed full of fun, facts and – of course – real beetles!

- **You’re Hired! Jobs for Monsters with Justin Davies**
  Davidson Chalmers Storytelling Tent | 3.30pm | £6 | Age 6 - 9
  Where do mermaids work? What job would suit a giant? How does a cyclops earn his money? To answer these important questions, join Justin Davies, author of Help! I Smell a Monster, and step inside Scotland’s only job agency for monsters! Discover how Justin came up with his cast of monsters and learn why he thinks writing funny stories can help change the world. You might even find yourself being interviewed for a monster job.

- **Absolutely Everything!**
  McInroy & Wood Marquee | 2.15pm | £10, £6
  Join bestselling non-fiction author Christopher Lloyd on his latest and greatest voyage. Using a giant 8m-long timeline as a backdrop, and his signature coat of many pockets, he stops off at 15 defining moments that have shaped our planet, animals, and the people inhabiting Earth. Absolutely Everything! looks set to become a classic.

THE BELOW EVENTS APPEAR IN THE ADULT PROGRAMME: SUITABLE FOR ADULTS & CHILDREN

- **Disco Yoga**
  McInroy & Wood Marquee | 11.15am
  £10, £6
  A fun, dance-based yoga session that combines disco dancing with easy yoga poses set to 70s disco music. Disco Yoga is great fun for all ages, from seven to seventy… and beyond. Start your Sunday morning with a smile and get ready for a BLAST! Bring your own yoga mat.

- **Borders Youth Theatre: Tales of Beatrix Potter**
  Buccleuch Marquee | 12.45pm | £6
  Adapted by John Mckendry, directed by Amanda Glasgow and Oli Bisset.
  Beatrix Potter’s charming tales of Jemima Puddleduck and Jeremy Fisher are brought to life by young performers from across the Scottish Borders. The performances will be followed by a short drama workshop ‘taster’ session for young audience members age 7 years and up. Please note that children up to age 12 should be accompanied by an adult.

- **A Wee Bird was Watching**
  Orchard Marquee | 2.00pm | £6 | Age 4 - 8
  Go Wild with Abbotsford
  Abbotsford Teepee | 12.30pm – 4.45pm
  FREE | All Ages
  Join the team at the Abbotsford Teepee for crafts and fun activities all about the wild outdoors at Sir Walter Scott’s home. Activities are run on a drop-in basis with all materials provided.

- **Tom & Tallulah and the Witches’ Feast**
  Davidson Chalmers Storytelling Tent | 2.00pm | £6 | Age 7+
  Festival favourite Vivian French bring us the story of Tallulah Tickle and her little brother Tom, who have a big problem. Their grandmother, a kind and caring witch, is turning into a chicken, but which witch from the Charmed Circle is to blame? And can Tallulah – the worst cook ever – cook up a storm to save the day? Come and find out… and draw your very own witch!

- **Easy Peasy: Real Cooking for Kids**
  Buccleuch Marquee | 1.15pm | £6 | Age 8 – 13
  Prepare to change your life! In their new book, Easy Peasy Real Cooking for Kids, Mary Contini and Pru Irvine will help you transform your kitchen into a home-cooking heaven. A fun-filled hour of food talk, blind tastings, a quiz and cooking tips for budding chefs. Yum!

- **Daddy Frog and the Moon**
  Buccleuch Marquee | 3.45pm | £6 | Age 2 – 5
  Daddy Frog is determined to show Baby Frog how to catch the moon. He begins a giant 8m-long timeline as a backdrop, and steps into Scotland’s only job agency for monsters to answer these important questions: where do mermaids work? What job would suit a cyclops? How does a cyclops earn his money? To answer these important questions, join Justin Davies, author of Help! I Smell a Monster, and step inside Scotland’s only job agency for monsters! Discover how Justin came up with his cast of monsters and learn why he thinks writing funny stories can help change the world. You might even find yourself being interviewed for a monster job.

- **Absolutely Everything!**
  McInroy & Wood Marquee | 2.15pm | £10, £6
  Join bestselling non-fiction author Christopher Lloyd on his latest and greatest voyage. Using a giant 8m-long timeline as a backdrop, and his signature coat of many pockets, he stops off at 15 defining moments that have shaped our planet, animals, and the people inhabiting Earth. Absolutely Everything! looks set to become a classic.

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