

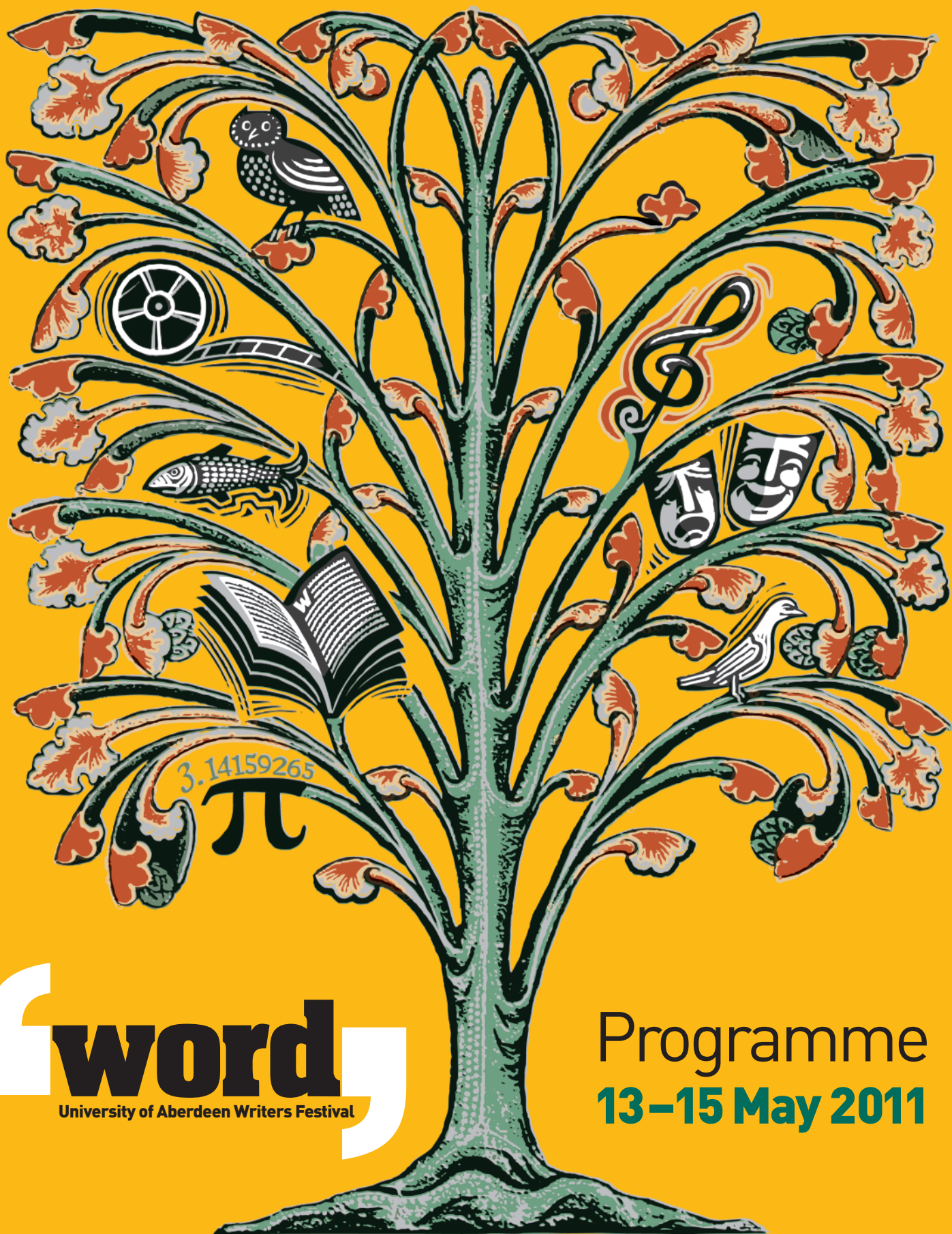


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**word**  
University of Aberdeen Writers Festival

Programme  
**13–15 May 2011**

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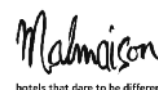
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## Friends of Word Membership Scheme

Friends of Word Membership includes:

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# Welcome to **word**

University of Aberdeen Writers Festival

Word is now into its second decade and has long established itself as one of Scotland's most exciting, dynamic and diverse literary gatherings. The programme for this year's Festival once again offers a broad spectrum of events for all ages, as well as attracting some of the major figures in contemporary writing.

The Festival is also an important part of the University's commitment to the wider community. We're very proud to be the only UK university that organises a major literary festival and one that has become such a highlight of the cultural calendar of the North.

Last year, over 11,000 people of all ages from across the world attended the Festival. Wherever you are from, whether you are aged 7 or 70, we hope you will join us for this very special celebration of the written and spoken word.

**Professor Ian Diamond**  
Principal and Vice-Chancellor



**The Word Festival** moves into its second decade with another sensational programme. There's the usual heady mix of poetry, fiction and non-fiction, readings, performances, discussions, exhibitions, music, a club night and events that just defy categorisation (and a festival that begins with Margaret Atwood and ends with Alasdair Gray is pretty special).

The science strand gets stronger each year, and the Marathon Oil Schools' and Children's Festivals once more brighten up the campus.

We have events in all of Scotland's languages, with Gaelic and Doric prominent, and there are special celebrations of the work of two of Scotland's finest poets whose centenaries were marked recently, Sorley MacLean and Norman MacCaig.

Irish writers also feature prominently, and once again the programme is truly international, with participants from Canada, USA, Spain, Poland, Australia and Egypt.

Thanks to our many public and private funding partners – especially our Joint Title Sponsors Talisman Energy and Wood Group – we've been able to keep our ticket prices low, with increases kept to a minimum and many events still, amazingly, free.

**It's an absolutely fantastic weekend  
– guaranteed!**

**Alan Spence** Artistic Director

## contents

<b>Word Weekend at a Glance</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Friday 13 May</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Saturday 14 May</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Sunday 15 May</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Word Extra</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Alumni Events</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Exhibitions</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Tickets and Visitor Info</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Marathon Oil Schools' and Children's Festivals</b>	<b>18</b>



## Friday 13 May

11.30am	<b>Margaret Atwood</b> Arts Lecture Theatre
12pm	<b>Spanish Writing</b> Linklater Rooms, King's College
12.30pm	<b>Linklater Lecture: Cairns Craig on Kenneth White</b> King's College Centre, King's College
1pm	<b>Leila Aboulela</b> Linklater Rooms, King's College
2pm	<b>Jimmy Buchan</b> King's College Centre, King's College
2pm	<b>Michael Brooks: 13 Things</b> Festival Marquee, King's College
2pm	<b>Sorley MacLean Event: Peter MacKay, Derrick McClure and Kevin MacNeil</b> Linklater Rooms, King's College
3pm	<b>Robin Harper</b> King's College Centre, King's College
4pm	<b>Meaghan Delahunt and Lesley Glaister</b> Festival Marquee, King's College
4pm	<b>Chris Smith: The Naked Scientist</b> MedChi Hall, Polwarth Building, Foresterhill
5pm	<b>Dermot Healy and Kevin MacNeil</b> King's College Centre, King's College
5.30pm	<b>Bruce Hood: Science and Superstition</b> Festival Marquee, King's College
6pm	<b>Lisa Collinson: Who is Hamlet?</b> Linklater Rooms, King's College
7pm	<b>Iain Banks</b> Arts Lecture Theatre, King's College
7.30pm	<b>Helen Warner</b> King's College Centre, King's College
8.30pm	<b>Skeptics in the Pub: Believing It or Not</b> Cellar 35, 35 Rosemount Viaduct

## Saturday 14 May

10.30am	<b>James Robertson and Robert Alan Jamieson</b> King's College Centre, King's College
11.30am	<b>Kenneth White</b> King's College Centre, King's College
12pm	<b>Create Your Own Curiosity at King's Museum</b> King's Museum: See page 14
12.30pm	<b>Anne Enright and Jane Harris</b> King's College Centre, King's College
1pm	<b>Pushing Out the Boat</b> Multimedia Room, King's College
1.30pm	<b>Dennis Canavan</b> Festival Marquee, King's College
2pm	<b>Robert Alan Jamieson</b> Grassic Gibbon Centre, Arbuthnott, Laurencekirk
2.30pm	<b>Irish Poetry Event with Patrick Crotty, Ciaran Carson, Bernard O'Donoghue and Kit Fryatt</b> King's College Centre, King's College
3pm	<b>John Suchet</b> Arts Lecture Theatre, King's College
3pm	<b>Polish Writing</b> Multimedia Room, King's College
3pm	<b>Create Your Own Curiosity at King's Museum</b> King's Museum: See page 14
4.30pm	<b>Billy O'Callaghan and Wayne Price</b> Linklater Rooms, Kings College

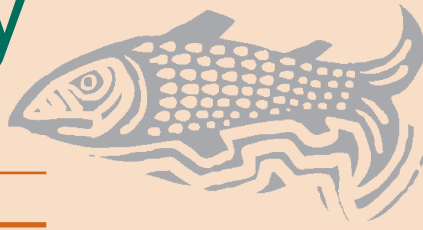
4.30pm	<b>Tim Dowling</b> King's College Centre, King's College
5pm	<b>Ian Stewart</b> Festival Marquee, King's College
5.30pm	<b>Amnesty International</b> Multimedia Room, King's College
6pm	<b>Sean O'Brien and August Kleinzahler</b> Linklater Rooms, Kings College
6pm – 10pm	<b>Night at the Museum</b> Zoology museum & King's Museum: See page 14
6.30pm	<b>Neil Forsyth</b> King's College Centre, King's College
6.30pm	<b>Christian Wolmar</b> Festival Marquee, King's College
7pm	<b>Ian Buxton: Whisky Dinner</b> Malmaison, 49 – 53 Queens Road
7pm	<b>Create Your Own Curiosity at King's Museum</b> King's Museum: See page 14
7.30pm	<b>Paul Trynka (David Bowie Night at Café Drummond)</b> Café Drummond, Belmont Street

## Sunday 15 May

10am	<b>Sheena Blackhall</b> Multimedia Room, King's College
11am	<b>Isobel Murray Book Launch: Scottish Novels of the Second World War</b> Multimedia Room, King's College
12pm	<b>Thomas Weber – Hitler's First War</b> Festival Marquee, King's College
12pm	<b>David Toulmin Short Story Competition Award Ceremony</b> Multimedia Room, King's College
1pm	<b>David Shukman</b> King's College Centre, King's College
1pm	<b>Lemon Tree Writers</b> Multimedia Room, King's College
2pm	<b>New Voices</b> Multimedia Room, King's College
2pm	<b>Ian Buxton: Whisky Tasting</b> Malmaison, 49 – 53 Queens Road
2.30pm	<b>Catriona Lexy Campbell</b> Woodend Barn, Banchory
3pm	<b>Margaret Atwood: Centre for The Novel Event</b> Arts Lecture Theatre, King's College
3pm	<b>John Lister-Kaye</b> King's College Centre, King's College
3.45pm	<b>David Northcroft</b> Woodend Barn, Banchory
4.30pm	<b>Stephen Robertson</b> King's College Centre, King's College
4.30pm	<b>Regi Claire and Helen Lynch</b> Linklater Rooms, King's College
5.30pm	<b>Amnesty International</b> Multimedia Room, King's College
5.30pm	<b>Causeway / Cabhsair: Magazine Launch</b> Linklater Rooms, King's College
6pm	<b>Alasdair Gray</b> Arts Lecture Theatre, King's College
7.30pm	<b>The Loch of the Green Corrie: Norman MacCaig Celebration with Andrew Greig, Douglas Eadie and Aly Bain</b> Lemon Tree, West North Street



# friday 13 may



## Margaret Atwood

11.30am | Arts Lecture Theatre | £8 (£6)

There's a real buzz about the place as we welcome **Margaret Atwood**, quite simply one of the greatest writers on the planet, a truly world-class talent. She has published more than 30 books of fiction, poetry and essays, and her novels include *The Handmaid's Tale*, the Booker-winning *The Blind Assassin*, and most recently *The Year of the Flood*. A sharp intellect, a rare gift for storytelling and a wicked sense of humour – she's not to be missed.

## Spanish Writing

12 noon | Linklater Rooms, King's College | £6 (£4)

Sponsored by the Spanish Consulate General

A special event in our popular World Voices series, sponsored by the Spanish Consulate General and featuring a prominent Spanish author. Visit [www.abdn.ac.uk/word](http://www.abdn.ac.uk/word) for details.

## Linklater Lecture: Cairns Craig on Kenneth White

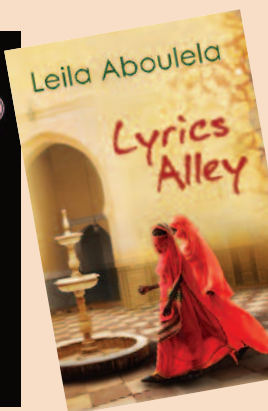
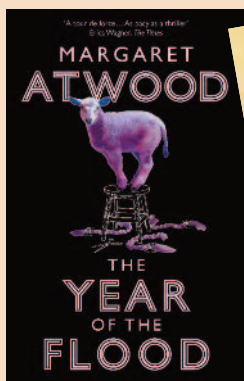
12.30pm | King's College Centre, King's College | FREE

**Kenneth White** is a hugely influential, internationally respected Scottish poet and thinker (and he's reading at Word on Saturday morning). By a judicious piece of planning, he is also the subject of this year's Linklater Lecture by **Cairns Craig**, Gluckman Professor of Irish and Scottish Studies at the University of Aberdeen and Director of the University's Research Institute for Irish and Scottish Studies.

## Leila Aboulela

1pm | Linklater Rooms, King's College | £6 (£4)

**Leila Aboulela** was born in Cairo and lives in Abu Dhabi. She took part in the first Word Festival in 1999 when she was living in Aberdeen. Since then she has published novels and short stories – *The Translator*, *Coloured Lights*, *Minaret* and most recently, *Lyrics Alley*. Her story *The Museum* won the first Caine Prize for African Writing.



## Jimmy Buchan

2pm | King's College Centre, King's College | £6 (£4)

Sponsored by The Scottish Fisherman's Federation

Be the first to hear Britain's most famous skipper and star of BBC TV series *Trawlermen*, **Jimmy Buchan**, read from his new memoir. After more than three decades at sea he joins us for his first ever book event to share an insight into the highs and lows of the fishing industry, and his life spent working in the most dangerous of jobs.

## Michael Brooks: 13 Things

2pm | Festival Marquee, King's College | £6 (£4)

Physicist and author **Michael Brooks** is a consultant at *New Scientist*, has a weekly column in the *New Statesman* and has written for *the Guardian*, *the Independent*, *the Observer* and (his proudest byline) *Playboy*. His recent book *13 Things That Don't Make Sense* takes us on a journey through the most intriguing questions in science that mystify even the experts. **Part of our Friday 13th theme.**

## Sorley MacLean Event: Peter MacKay, Derrick McClure and Kevin MacNeil

2pm | Linklater Rooms, King's College | FREE

We celebrate the Centenary year of Sorley MacLean's birth with a double event. **Peter MacKay** reads from his acclaimed new introduction to MacLean's work, and **Derrick McClure** launches his new book of Doric translations from Sorley's Gaelic collection, *Dain do Eimhir*. The event is chaired by poet and novelist **Kevin MacNeil** and will be a timely tribute to the greatest Gaelic poet of the 20th Century.

## Robin Harper

3pm | King's College Centre, King's College | £6 (£4)

**Robin Harper** has been variously described as 'a rare jewel in an ocean of murk,' and 'everybody's favourite MSP.' Convenor of the Scottish Green Party, and the party's first parliamentarian, he is a colourful, engaging and outspoken character. A graduate of Aberdeen and a former Rector of the University, he makes a welcome return to Word to read from his new memoir, *Dear Mr Harper*, written with Fred Bridgland.

Book tickets: Online [www.abdn.ac.uk/word](http://www.abdn.ac.uk/word)  
Call Aberdeen Box Office 01224 641122

# friday 13 may

## Chris Smith: The Naked Scientist

4pm | MedChi Hall, Polwarth Building, Foresterhill | FREE

Sponsored by Aberdeen Medico-Chirurgical Society

**Dr Chris Smith**, of *The Naked Scientist's* fame, introduces his new book and lays bare the science behind some of the puzzles of everyday life spanning from the physics of kung fu to the bizarre biology of groundbreaking medical research.

## Meaghan Delahunt and Lesley Glaister

4pm | Festival Marquee, King's College | £6 (£4)

Two accomplished and entertaining novelists read from their new work. Australian-born **Meaghan Delahunt** has published two previous novels, *In the Blue House* and *The Red Book*, and has won a Commonwealth Prize. **Lesley Glaister** has published some 15 novels, most recently *Chosen*, and has won the Betty Trask Award and the Somerset Maugham Award. Both women teach Creative Writing at the University of St Andrews.

## Dermot Healy and Kevin MacNeil

5pm | King's College Centre, King's College | £6 (£4)

Irish and Scottish fiction at its finest. **Dermot Healy** is an award-winning novelist, poet and playwright who has won the Hennessy Award and the Tom Gallon Award. Here he launches his first new novel in ten years, *Long Time, No See*. Stornoway-born **Kevin MacNeil** is a poet, novelist and playwright whose latest novel, *A Method Actor's Guide to Jekyll and Hyde*, has been a huge success.

## Bruce Hood: Science and Superstition

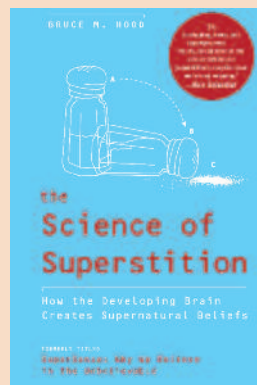
5.30pm | Festival Marquee, King's College | £6 (£4)

Superstition can pervade our way of life, famously influencing public figures like Tony Blair, John McEnroe and Barack Obama. But is a lack of rational thought necessarily a bad thing? An award winning experimental psychologist, **Bruce Hood** has worked at Cambridge, MIT, Harvard and Bristol. His book *SuperSense: From Superstition to Religion – The Brain Science of Belief* may just change the way you think about yourself. **Part of our Friday 13th theme.**

## Lisa Collinson: Who is Hamlet?

6pm | Linklater Rooms, King's College | FREE

It's a centuries-old question but now a University of Aberdeen academic thinks she may have found a fresh answer. Join **Dr Lisa Collinson** for a journey through the origins of the Hamlet name and what the new finding could mean for the portrayal of Shakespeare's most famous character. **This is a free and informal discussion style event.**



## Iain Banks

7pm | Arts Lecture Theatre, King's College | £8 (£6)

**Iain Banks** is a phenomenally successful novelist, both for his mainstream novels and his science fiction (published as Iain M Banks). Since he burst on the scene with *The Wasp Factory* in 1984, he has published more than 20 novels and been named by *The Times* as one of 'The 50 Greatest British Writers since 1945.' His latest book is *Surface Detail*.

## Helen Warner

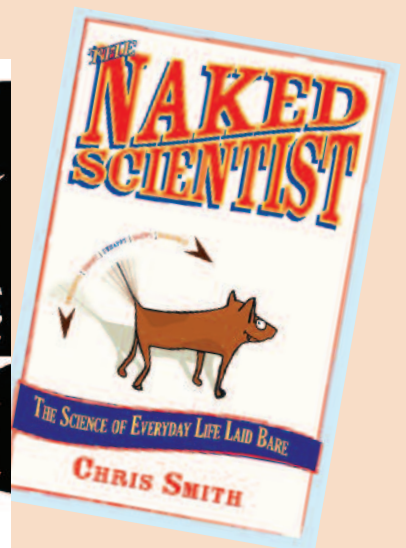
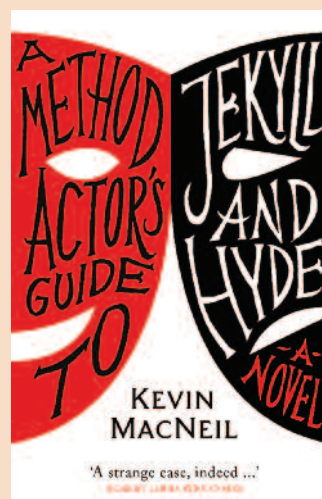
7.30pm | King's College Centre, King's College | £6 (£4)

**Helen Warner** is Head of Daytime TV for Channel 4 and is the woman behind the huge success of *Come Dine With Me*, as well as the award-winning *Deal or No Deal*, *The Paul O'Grady Show* and *Loose Women*. Join us as she talks about her latest release, *RSVP*, which tells the story of four women, one wedding and a whole heap of trouble...

## Skeptics in the Pub: Believing It or Not

8.30pm | Cellar 35, 35 Rosemount Viaduct | FREE

Why are we interested in the unexplainable? Should we be? In this special Skeptics in the Pub event, Professor of Psychology and author **Bruce Hood** will join physicist and author **Michael Brooks** to discuss belief in the unbelievable and what we can learn from the unexpected. An informal evening with lots of opportunity for audience discussion. **Part of our Friday 13th theme.** (Over 18s only)





# saturday 14 may

## James Robertson and Robert Alan Jamieson

10.30am | King's College Centre, King's College | £6 (£4)

Two landmark, epic Scottish novels were published last year – *And the Land Lay Still* by James Robertson and *Da Happie Laand* by Robert Alan Jamieson. Now both authors come together for a very special event. **James Robertson** is a former Writer-in-Residence to the Scottish Parliament. His novel, *The Testament of Gideon Mack*, was a Richard and Judy Book Club choice. Shetlander **Robert Alan Jamieson** teaches at the University of Edinburgh and his previous books include *Nort Atlantik Drift*.

## Kenneth White

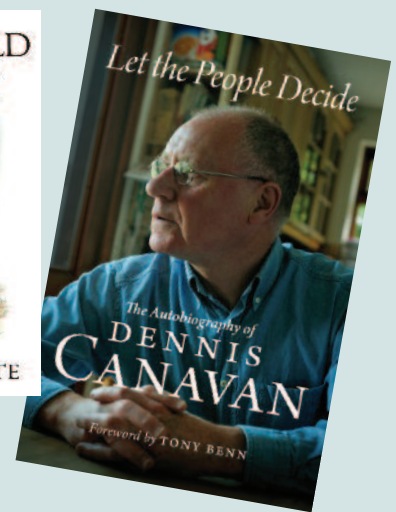
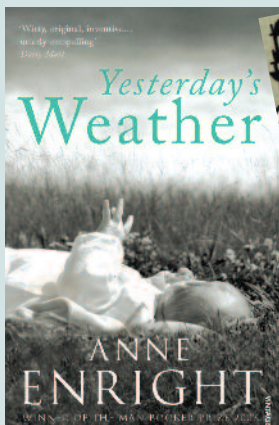
11.30am | King's College Centre, King's College | £6 (£4)

**Kenneth White** is a distinguished Scottish poet and philosopher with a huge international reputation, especially in France where he has lived since the 1960s and where he has held the Chair of 20th-Century Poetry at the Sorbonne. He is an influential figure in the field of Geopoetics, and his poetry collections and 'way-books' include *The Blue Road*, *Travels in the Drifting Dawn* and *Open World: Collected Poems*.

## Anne Enright and Jane Harris

12.30pm | King's College Centre, King's College | £6 (£4)

Great prose from two of the finest writers at work today. **Anne Enright** won the Man Booker Prize for her novel *The Gathering*. Her short story collections include *The Wig My Father Wore* and *Taking Pictures*. In addition to the Booker, she has won the Davy Byrne Irish Writing Award and the Royal Society of Authors Encore Prize. **Jane Harris** made a stunning debut with her novel *The Observations* which won the Book of the Month Club's First Fiction Prize in the USA. Her second novel, just published, is *Gillespie and I*.



## Pushing Out the Boat

1pm | Multimedia Room, King's College | FREE

*Pushing Out the Boat* is North-East Scotland's prestigious magazine of new writing and the visual arts. Beautifully produced, it publishes established writers alongside emerging talent. Admired for its vibrant fusion of Scots, Doric and English, North-East Scotland's acclaimed literary magazine is 10 this year! Why not share the celebrations and be wowed by an eclectic mix of stories and poems read by its talented contributors!

## Dennis Canavan

1.30pm | Festival Marquee, King's College | £6 (£4)

**Dennis Canavan** is that rarity in politics, a man of integrity who is respected across the political divide. When he announced his retirement from the Scottish Parliament in 2007, he received an ovation from all sides of the House. Here he discusses his 33 year career at Westminster and Holyrood and his moving memoir *Let the People Decide*.

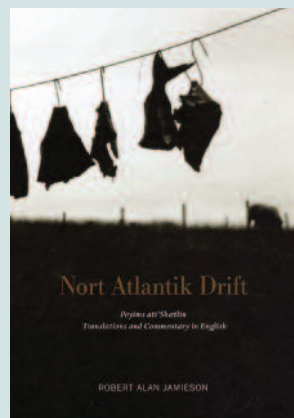
## Robert Alan Jamieson

2pm | Grassic Gibbon Centre, Arbuthnott, Laurencekirk | £5

In partnership with the Grassic Gibbon Centre

Word links with the Grassic Gibbon Centre for a special event with Shetlander **Robert Alan Jamieson**. Robert is a poet as well as a novelist, and a wonderfully entertaining reader of his own work. There will be an intermission with home bakes followed by readings from Gibbon's works from local authors.

[www.grassicgibbon.com](http://www.grassicgibbon.com)



Book tickets: Online [www.abdn.ac.uk/word](http://www.abdn.ac.uk/word)  
Call Aberdeen Box Office 01224 641122

# saturday 14 may

## Irish Poetry Event with Patrick Crotty, Ciaran Carson, Bernard O'Donoghue and Kit Fryatt

2.30pm | King's College Centre, King's College | £6 (£4)

**Patrick Crotty** is Professor of Irish and Scottish Literature at the University of Aberdeen, and *The Penguin Book of Irish Poetry*, which he edited, is a magnificent achievement and was 12 years in the making. Here we showcase the anthology with some of the contributors / translators, all superb poets: **Ciaran Carson** whose latest collection is *One Night Watch*, **Bernard O'Donoghue** whose *Selected Poems* was published in 2008 and **Kit Fryatt**.

## John Suchet

3pm | Arts Lecture Theatre, King's College | £8 (£6)

**John Suchet** is one of the country's best known TV newscasters, having worked for ITN for 17 years, and also as a reporter covering events worldwide. Here he talks about his book *My Bonnie: How dementia stole the love of my life*, an honest and heartfelt account of his wife's diagnosis with Alzheimer's four years ago and the years he has spent caring for her.

## Polish Writing

3pm | Multimedia Room, King's College | £6 (£4)

*Sponsored by The W. Bednarowski Trust*

Another special event in our popular World Voices series, sponsored by The W. Bednarowski Trust and featuring a prominent Polish author. Visit [www.abdn.ac.uk/word](http://www.abdn.ac.uk/word) for details.

## Billy O'Callaghan and Wayne Price

4.30pm | Linklater Rooms, Kings College | £6 (£4)

Two brilliant short story writers read their own work. **Billy O'Callaghan** lives in Cork and has published two collections of stories, *In Exile* and *In Too Deep*. He has won the George A. Birmingham Award and the Molly Keane Short Story Prize. Welsh-born **Wayne Price** teaches Literature and Creative Writing at the University of Aberdeen. He has twice been runner up for the Bridport Prize and took second place in the Edwin Morgan Poetry Competition.



## Tim Dowling

4.30pm | King's College Centre, King's College | £6 (£4)

American-born **Tim Dowling** is a *Guardian* columnist whose regular piece in the paper's *Weekend* magazine is one of the UK's funniest columns. He has also published two books, *Suspicious Packages* and *Extendable Arms*, a collection of his *Guardian* pieces, and a novel, *The Giles Wareing Haters' Club*, about a journalist who googles himself and discovers an online club of readers who hate him.

## Ian Stewart

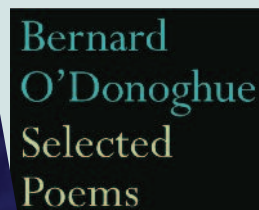
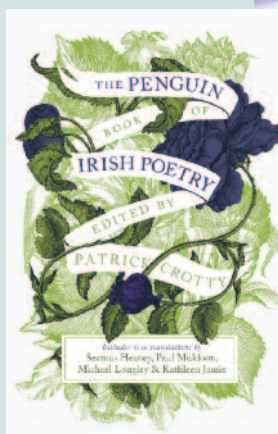
5pm | Festival Marquee, King's College | £6 (£4)

As a science writer, science-fiction author, Professor of maths and award winning populariser of science, **Ian Stewart** leads a varied and busy life. Having authored and co-authored over 20 books including the *Science of Discworld* with Terry Pratchett and Jack Cohen, he has brought the beauty of science and maths to the masses. His latest book *Mathematics Of Life: Unlocking the Secrets of Existence* is for everyone curious about the living world and our place in it.

## Amnesty International

5.30pm | Multimedia Room, King's College | FREE

Join some of the authors taking part in this year's Festival as they read from the work of imprisoned and persecuted writers from around the globe.





# saturday 14 may

## Sean O'Brien and August Kleinzahler

6pm | Linklater Rooms, King's College | £6 (£4)

A scintillating hour of poetry. **Sean O'Brien** makes a welcome return to Word. He has won a host of prizes and awards, including the TS Eliot Prize twice, and the Forward Poetry Prize three times. His most recent collection is *The Drowned Book*. He is joined by **August Kleinzahler**, making a rare visit from the USA, who is a regular contributor to *London Review of Books*, winner of the Griffin Poetry Prize, the Berlin Prize and a Guggenheim Fellowship. His latest collection is *Sleeping it Off in Rapid City*.

## Neil Forsyth

6.30pm | King's College Centre, King's College | £6 (£4)

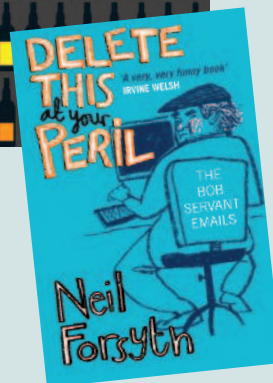
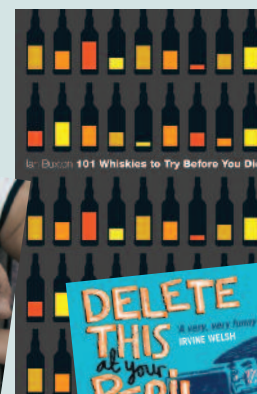
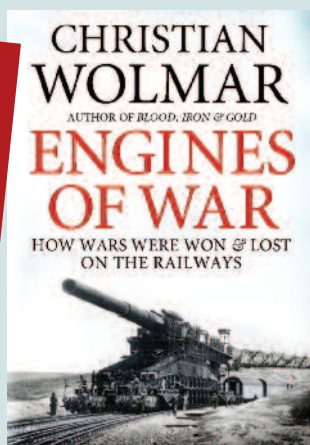
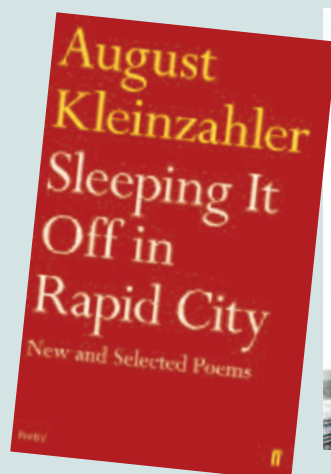
**Neil Forsyth**, author and journalist, reads from his bestselling book *Delete This at Your Peril*, a collection of surreal and hilarious email exchanges with internet spammers who meet their match in Forsyth's alter-ego Bob 'Godzilla' Servant. He also introduces the sequel, *Bob Servant: Hero of Dundee*, the life story of Scotland's unsung anti-hero.

## Christian Wolmar

6.30pm | Festival Marquee, King's College | £6 (£4)

Sponsored by First ScotRail

Hailed as the 'Greatest Expert on British Trains', **Christian Wolmar** is a renowned transport journalist and Honorary Research Fellow at the University of Aberdeen's Centre for Transport Research. His books include *The Great British Railway Disaster* and *Fire and Steam*. Most recently he has penned *Engines of War*, a historic look at the impact and importance of railways on warfare between the mid-nineteenth and mid-twentieth centuries.



## Ian Buxton: Whisky Dinner

7pm until late | Malmaison, 49 – 53 Queens Road | £25

In partnership with Malmaison

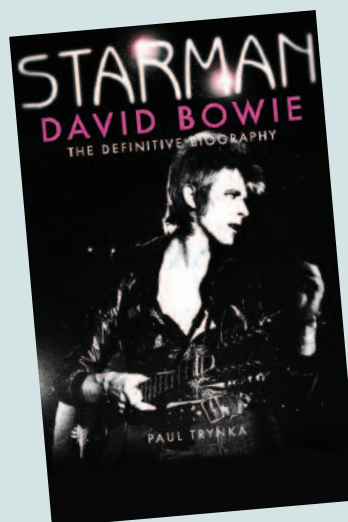
Enjoy a specially-created three course Whisky Dinner in the stunning Malmaison Hotel and six nips of whisky specially chosen to complement the food by leading expert, **Ian Buxton**, author of the best-selling whisky book *101 Whiskies to Try Before You Die*. Ian will provide tasting notes, stories and anecdotes between courses. (Over 18's only)

## Paul Trynka: David Bowie Night

7.30pm until late | Café Drummond, Belmont Street | £6 (£4)

In partnership with Café Drummond

**Paul Trynka** presents his book, *Starman*, a definitive new biography of David Bowie comprising the stories of over two hundred of the people who were to witness the legendary songwriter's transformation into an icon. Come along to hear Trynka (former Editor of *Mojo* magazine and Editorial Director of *Q* magazine) share some of these compelling and often intimate anecdotes. This event will be followed by David Bowie tribute acts and a Bowie inspired club night. (Over 18s only)



Book tickets: Online [www.abdn.ac.uk/word](http://www.abdn.ac.uk/word)  
Call Aberdeen Box Office 01224 641122

# sunday 15 may

## Sheena Blackhall

10am | Multimedia Room, King's College | £6 (£4)

The Word Festival would not be complete without **Sheena Blackhall**, the true and original voice of the North East. A prolific poet and storyteller, singer and songwriter, she was appointed the North East's first official Makar or Poet Laureate. She recently published a Selected Poems, *Wittins*.

## Isobel Murray Book Launch: Scottish Novels of the Second World War

11am | Multimedia Room, King's College | £6 (£4)

**Isobel Murray** is a much loved and respected academic and critic who has spent much of career at the University of Aberdeen where she was Professor of English. Her work includes definitive editions of Wilde, a critical biography of Jessie Kesson (which won the Saltire Award) and three volumes of interviews, *Scottish Writers Talking*. Here she launches her new book on a generation of Scottish writers, some well known, some neglected, including Fred Urquhart, Jessie Kesson, Muriel Spark, Robin Jenkins and George Mackay Brown.

## Thomas Weber: Hitler's First War

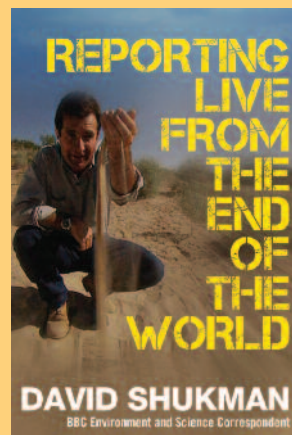
12 noon | Festival Marquee, King's College | £6 (£4)

One of the publishing sensations of last year was *Hitler's First War* by **Thomas Weber**. A groundbreaking work, meticulously researched, it challenges much received opinion and throws new light on Hitler's formative experience in World War I. Doctor Weber is Lecturer in Modern European, International and Global Political History at the University of Aberdeen. His previous award-winning books include *The Lodz Ghetto Album* and *Our Friend 'The Enemy'*.

## David Toulmin Short Story Competition Award Ceremony

12 noon | Multimedia Room, King's College | FREE

The culmination of the annual short story competition run by the Elphinstone Institute, commemorating the work of David Toulmin, one of the finest exponents of written Doric. The winner will be announced and the winning story read by **Sheena Blackhall**.



## David Shukman

1pm | King's College Centre, King's College | £8 (£6)

As environment and science correspondent for BBC News, **David Shukman's** frontline reports have originated in locations as diverse as the Arctic, the Antarctic, and the Amazon. David's recent book *Reporting Live from the End of the World* captures the diversity, importance and impact of his journalistic expeditions at a time when the sustainability of our planet is never far from the headlines.

## Lemon Tree Writers

1pm | Multimedia Room, King's College | FREE

Hear new work from one of Aberdeen's longest-established writers' groups, the **Lemon Tree Writers**. The programme is a stimulating mix of poetry and prose reflecting life in the North East today in all its richness and variety. Each writer will read from their own original work and the varied content should ensure that audience members will find several pieces to suit their taste in story and verse.

## New Voices

2pm | Multimedia Room, King's College | FREE

Once again we are proud to showcase the work of this year's **Creative Writing MLitt students** at the University of Aberdeen. This is a genuine opportunity to catch up-and-coming talent and to hear tomorrow's writers today.

## Catriona Lexy Campbell\*

2.30pm | Woodend Barn, Banchory | £6 (£4)

**Catriona Lexy Campbell** is an exciting new face in Gaelic writing; born on the Isle of Lewis, she works throughout Scotland teaching drama and creative writing to young Gaelic speakers. An actor, author and prize-winning poet, she will be reading from her fantastic novel *Cleasan a Bhaile Mhòir*, and will share insights into her new book, for Gaelic and English speakers alike.

## David Northcroft\*

3.45pm | Woodend Barn, Banchory | £6 (£4)

**David Northcroft** has dedicated years to collecting first-hand accounts of life as it was in the rural communities of the North-east. In this event he will be discussing his new book *Grampian Lives*, and presenting some of the thoughts and real life incidents as lived and recalled by a range of North-east people: farming folk, fisher folk, plumbers and bobbies, from the cottar hoose to the big hoose.

\* These events have been organised in partnership with Woodend Barn. Book for both events at a reduced price of £8 (£6). Tickets available through Aberdeen Box Office or at Woodend Barn on 01330 825431





# sunday 15 may

## Ian Buxton: Whisky Tasting

2pm – 4pm | Malmaison, 49 – 53 Queens Road | £15

In partnership with Malmaison

A Whisky Tasting in the exclusive Rubislaw dining room at Malmaison with a selection of local and internationally selected cheeses to complement. With stories and anecdotes from **Ian Buxton**, author of the best-selling book *101 Whiskies to Try Before You Die*. (Over 18's only)

## Margaret Atwood: Centre for The Novel Event

3pm | Arts Lecture Theatre, King's College | £8 (£6)

We feature a second session with world-renowned Canadian novelist, poet and essayist, **Margaret Atwood**, this time sponsored by the University's Centre for The Novel. If you missed her reading on Friday (or if you want to hear her again) this is an opportunity as she discusses her work with **Professor Janet Todd**.

## John Lister-Kaye

3pm | King's College Centre, King's College | £6 (£4)

**Sir John Lister-Kaye** is one of Britain's best-known naturalists and environmentalists, and he runs the world-famous Aigas Field Centre in the Highlands. A scintillating speaker, combining 'a scientist's pragmatic focus with a poet's yearning soul', he is the author of eight books on wildlife and conservation, most recently *At the Water's Edge*.

## Stephen Robertson

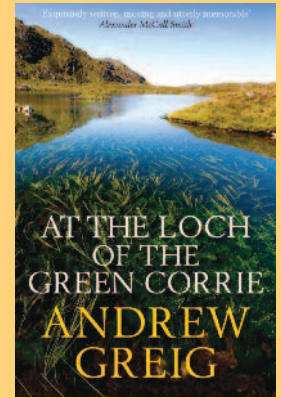
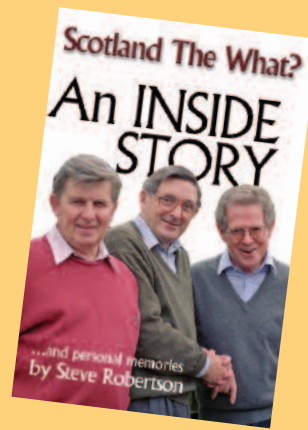
4.30pm | King's College Centre, King's College | £6 (£4)

**Stephen Robertson**, elected Rector of the University of Aberdeen in 2008, was one third of the Doric comedy act *Scotland The What?* a trio of friends who made their debut at Edinburgh Fringe Festival in 1969 and retired after their final performance at His Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen in 1995. With warmth and humour he tells the story of their extraordinary success.

## Regi Claire and Helen Lynch

4.30pm | Linklater Rooms, King's College | £6 (£4)

A short story event with a strong European theme. Swiss-born **Regi Claire** has published a novel, *The Beauty Room*, and two collections of stories, *Inside-Outside* and *Fighting It*, which were both shortlisted for the Saltire Award. **Helen Lynch** is a popular figure in the North East. She teaches Literature and Creative Writing at the University of Aberdeen and plays in the all-female ceilidh band, Danse McCabre. Her first short story collection, *The Elephant and the Polish Question*, won the Bluechrome Prize.



## Amnesty International

5.30pm | Multimedia Room, King's College | FREE

Join some of the authors taking part in this year's Festival as they read from the work of imprisoned and persecuted writers from around the globe.

## Causeway / Cabhsair: Magazine Launch

5.30pm | Linklater Rooms, King's College | FREE

Join us for the launch of Issue 3 of this exciting magazine, published by the University of Aberdeen's Research Institute for Irish and Scottish Studies, and featuring some of the best new writing from Scotland and Ireland in all the languages of both countries. There will be readings by contributors to the magazine, including **Donal McLaughlin**.

## Alasdair Gray

6pm | Arts Lecture Theatre, King's College | £8 (£6)

There's no-one in Scottish literature (or world literature for that matter) to compare with **Alasdair Gray**. Since the publication of his novel *Lanark* in 1981, he has been a quirky, inspirational presence, not only as a novelist but as a poet, dramatist, artist and polemicist. His most recent works are *A Life in Pictures*, and *Collected Verse* (An exhibition of his paintings, *Gray Stuff*, is at the Old Townhouse on campus).

## The Loch of the Green Corrie: Norman MacCaig Celebration with Andrew Greig, Douglas Eadie and Aly Bain

7.30pm until late | Lemon Tree, West North Street | £8 (£6)

The closing event of this year's Festival is a multi-faceted celebration of the life and work of Norman MacCaig, one of Scotland's greatest ever poets, whose centenary was last year. Poet **Andrew Greig** will read from his wonderful *At the Loch of the Green Corrie*, a quest-book and tribute to MacCaig. Director **Douglas Eadie** will discuss his film, *Fishing for Poetry*, based on the book, which featured Greig, Billy Connolly and the great Shetland fiddler **Aly Bain** who will also be on hand. A screening of the film (in the studio), readings of MacCaig's poetry and live music from Aly (in the Café Bar), guarantee a memorable evening. Come to the poetry and music session at 8.30pm for a reduced price of £5 (£3). **Don't miss out on what will be the Word Festival finale!**

Book tickets: Online [www.abdn.ac.uk/word/programme](http://www.abdn.ac.uk/word/programme)  
Call Aberdeen Box Office 01224 641122



# word

University of Aberdeen Writers Festival

Monday 9 May

## CafeMED: Good to Be Thin?

6pm | Suttie Centre Café, Foresterhill Health Campus | FREE, NO TICKETS REQUIRED

**Dr Kirsty Kiezebrink** and **Dr Philip Crockett** discuss the links between eating disorders and obesity which can be varied and complex. Come and discuss the latest thinking at our Word Festival special session.

Tuesday 10 May

## Café Scientifique: Why Is Snot Green?

7.30pm | Buchanans Bistro, Woodend Barn, Banchory | FREE, BOOKING REQUIRED

Lots of questions seem frivolous until you realise how much science lies behind them. We will be chatting with best-selling author **Glenn Murphy**, whose books thrive on people's natural curiosity. Please call Woodend Barn on 01330 826520 to reserve your place.

Tuesday 10 May

## Café Cosmos: Exploring the Dark Side of the Universe

7pm | Aberdeen College, City Centre Campus (Gallowgate Centre)  
FREE – TWO SEATS PER BOOKING CONTACT

Why does 96% of the matter and energy in the universe exist in an exotic, invisible form? In this session, we'll explore the mysteries of this so-called dark matter and energy with **Dr Martin Hendry** hosting. To book call Calum Scott on 01224 274799.

Wednesday 11 May

## Café Scientifique: Medicines and You: A Bitter-Sweet Mixture?

7pm | Waterstone's Union Bridge branch | FREE, NO TICKETS REQUIRED

More medicines than ever can be bought without prescription, but do the benefits outweigh the harm? Come and discuss the safety issues around over-the-counter medicines with **Professor Phil Hannaford** and **Dr Margaret Watson**.

Thursday 12 May

## Purcell: The Fairy Queen

7.30pm | King's College Chapel, University of Aberdeen  
Tickets £8 (Adult conc £5/student & child conc £2)

The University of Aberdeen Baroque Ensemble will abduct you to a magical Midsummer Night's dream-world, where the silly blends with the sublime in Purcell's opera, *The Fairy Queen*. Tickets available from Aberdeen Box Office – 01224 641122 or [www.boxofficeaberndeen.com](http://www.boxofficeaberndeen.com)

Thursday 12 May

## King James Bible as Literature

6.30pm | King's College Centre, University of Aberdeen | FREE, BOOKING REQUIRED

The final event in a lecture series to celebrate 400 years of the King James Bible. This lecture will be followed by a cheese and wine reception. Lecture taken by **Professor George Campbell**, University of Leicester. To reserve a free place, phone 01224 272084 or go to [www.abdn.ac.uk/king-james-bible](http://www.abdn.ac.uk/king-james-bible)

Thursday 12 May

## Discovery Dinners Healthy and Delicious

6.30pm – 8.30pm | Aberdeen College Training Restaurant, Gallowgate Centre (entry off Loch Street) | £17.50, includes a 3-course meal with coffee

Enjoy an award winning menu developed by the cookery students of Aberdeen College with support from the Human Nutrition Unit at the **University of Aberdeen Rowett Institute for Nutrition and Health**. Each table will be hosted by one of the nutritionists involved to help spark lively conversation around food and health topics. Booking essential, email [brasserie@abcol.ac.uk](mailto:brasserie@abcol.ac.uk) or call 01224 612169. Guests are welcome to bring their own wine.

Thursday 12 May

## The Rape of Lucrece by William Shakespeare

7pm | The Lemon Tree, West North Street | Tickets £10

Following sell-out performances in London, Olivier Award nominee **Gerard Logan** brings his astonishing, internationally-acclaimed performance of Shakespeare's brilliant, brutal narrative poem to the Lemon Tree. *"Sensational!"* Sir Trevor Nunn. Tickets available from Aberdeen Box Office – 01224 641122 or [www.boxofficeaberndeen.com](http://www.boxofficeaberndeen.com)





# extra

Friday 13 May

## Smallpetitklein: Falling Man

7.30pm | Woodend Barn, Banchory AB31 5QA  
Advance tickets £9 (£7 conc, £5 under 16) or + £1 on the door

A triple bill inspired by pictures by Richard Drew, which captures a man falling from the World Trade Center on 9/11. This hauntingly beautiful, emotive piece of dance theatre will electrify and move audiences. Tickets available from [www.woodendbarn.co.uk](http://www.woodendbarn.co.uk) or call 01330 825431.

Saturday 14 May

## Lau

8pm | Woodend Barn, Banchory AB31 5QA  
Advance tickets £15 (£13 conc, £5 under 16) or + £1 on door

Epic song structures not usually associated with Folk music and more akin to those on the leftfield of rock and jazz. 'Best Group' BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards 2008 – 2010. Tickets available from [www.woodendbarn.co.uk](http://www.woodendbarn.co.uk) or call 01330 825431.

Sunday 15 May

## Chapel Service Adrian & Bridget Plass

11am | King's College Chapel, King's College | FREE, NO TICKETS REQUIRED

Our preachers this morning are **Adrian and Bridget Plass**. Adrian Plass is a writer and speaker, best known for his *Sacred Diary of Adrian Plass*, a gentle satire on the modern church. Come along for a worship service combining humour, poetry, and storytelling.

Sunday 15 May

## Old Aberdeen Walking Tours

1pm & 3.30pm (tours approximately 1 hour) | Old Town House, High Street, Old Aberdeen | FREE

Back by popular demand, join the University's own **David Robertson** on a walking tour of Old Aberdeen, highlighting the abundance of architectural and cultural riches hidden away in this unique medieval corner of the City.

Sunday 15 May

## Friends of Word Exclusive Event with John Lister Kaye

10am | Linklater Rooms, King's College | FREE for Friends of Word Only

Renowned naturalist and environmentalist **Sir John Lister-Kaye** discusses his life and work and his new book *At the Water's Edge* with Word Director **Alan Spence**. Coffee and cake included. If you would like to become a Friend of Word, see [www.word.ac.uk/word/friends](http://www.word.ac.uk/word/friends) for details.

## Events for Alumni

All events for Aberdeen Alumni are **FREE** but booking is required. Visit [www.abdn.ac.uk/word](http://www.abdn.ac.uk/word) or call 01224 273234 to book.

Saturday 14 May

## Statutory meeting of General Council

10am – 10.15am | King's College Centre, University of Aberdeen

The **Statutory meeting of General Council** includes a report from the Convenor of the Business Committee and General Council notices. The General Council meeting will be streamed live to allow Alumni living outwith the Aberdeen area the opportunity to participate.

Saturday 14 May

## Glenn Murphy: Why is Snot Green?

10.30am | Linklater Rooms, King's College

Alumni and their families are invited to join **Glenn Murphy**, bestselling author of *Why Is Snot Green* and *How Loud Can We Burp* as he explores a world of questions about science and nature. See him tackle everything from dinosaurs and vampire bats to moon bases and alien life – all in one funny, fast-paced, audience participation show.

Saturday 14 May

## Word event with Scottish authors: James Robertson and Robert Alan Jamieson

10.30am | Linklater Rooms, King's College

This event is open to the public and has a ticket charge but is free to Alumni attending the General Council meeting. See page 7 for full event details. Booking details as above.

Saturday 14 May

## Coffee & Cake

11.30am | Elphinstone Hall

Alumni are invited to join Robert, James and Glenn for coffee and cake in the Word Festival café. The Word Festival face painter will also be on hand to create some of the children's favourite magical characters.

# exhibitions

## Images of North

PERMANENT DISPLAY | King's College Centre, King's College | FREE

An exhibition displaying paintings of Scotland and the Arctic, Inuit sculptures, and objects relating to life in the Arctic from the University collections.

## 100 Curiosities

THROUGHOUT MAY | King's Museum, High Street, Old Aberdeen | FREE

The opening exhibition of the University's new King's Museum displays 100 objects from the University's museum collections, each chosen by a different person to show why they consider it to be of interest.

## Millie: Bob Dewar

13 – 15 MAY | Elphinstone Hall, King's College | FREE

Word exhibits original illustrations by **Bob Dewar** from *Millie*, the latest children's book to be published by The Reading Bus. *Millie* is the Doric tale of a beloved Dalmation dog who loves to steal sandwiches from locations around the North-East of Scotland written by **Sheena Blackhall**.

## Gray Stuff

THROUGHOUT MAY | Old Town House, High Street, Old Aberdeen | FREE

An exhibition of drawings and other works by **Alasdair Gray** (also speaking at Word). *'Real and Imagined World'*, a print by Victoria Crowe will also be on show. This limited edition print juxtaposes images of the Northern winter with the *Garden of Eden* and is for sale to support the new library.

# night at the museum

## Evening Opening

14 MAY | 6pm – 10pm | Zoology Museum, King's Museum and other venues | FREE

The University will celebrate its museums with a special night-time opening on campus. Email [museum@abdn.ac.uk](mailto:museum@abdn.ac.uk) for further details.

## Create Your Own Curiosity Craft Workshops

14 MAY | 12pm – 2pm, 3pm – 5pm, 7pm – 9pm | King's Museum | FREE: Booking Essential

As part of the 'Night at the Museum' event, King's Museum will host pre-booked craft workshops. The workshops at 12pm and 3pm are for all ages; the 7pm workshop is for adults only. Book via the Aberdeen Box Office.



# WORDS WE VALUE

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# Everything You Need for a

## Booking Festival Tickets

Tickets for the Word Festival will be available from **Monday 28 March**.

**Book online** [www.abdn.ac.uk/word](http://www.abdn.ac.uk/word)

**Book by telephone or in person**

Aberdeen Box Office **+44 (0) 1224 641122**

Aberdeen Music Hall, Union St, Aberdeen AB10 1QS

9.30am – 6pm, Monday – Saturday.

From 9.30am, Monday 28 March – 12 noon, Thursday 12 May.

*Please note:* If picking up tickets from Aberdeen Box Office, they must be collected by **12 noon, Thursday 12 May**; otherwise they will be available for collection at the Word Festival Box Office from Friday 13 May at 9am.

### During the Festival (13 – 15 May)

Tickets can be obtained in person from the Word Festival Box Office, King's College Centre, Aberdeen. The Box Office will be open daily from 9am – 7pm.

Tickets to most Word Festival events cost £6 with a £4 concession (students, over 60s, under 16s, registered unemployed and disabled visitors). Some events are free of charge but we recommend that you book in advance to guarantee your place at the event. **All children's and schools' events are free of charge.**

*Please note:*

**Unless otherwise stated, events last 50 minutes. Latecomers will not be admitted after the event starts.**

**All children under 5 must be accompanied by an adult at the Festival.**

Audio recorders, cameras, and mobile phones may not be used in the performance venues.

Word Festival visitors may be filmed or photographed for archive purposes and future promotion of the Festival.

All details are correct at the time of going to print. The Word Festival reserves the right to change events due to unforeseen circumstances. Any changes will be posted on the Word website: [www.abdn.ac.uk/word](http://www.abdn.ac.uk/word) and sign-posted on the day at the Word Festival Box Office. In the event of a cancellation, tickets will be refunded, otherwise tickets will not be accepted for refund or resale.

## Eating and Drinking

### Word Festival Restaurant and Café at Elphinstone Hall

**Open 9am until late, Friday – Sunday**

Situated right in the heart of the University of Aberdeen's historic campus, the festival café and restaurant provides the perfect setting to relax and reflect between events, under the dramatic hammer-beam roof of Elphinstone Hall. Enjoy a fair-trade coffee or tea in these distinguished surroundings, mingle under the cloisters after a hearty or healthy lunch at the restaurant, or wind down in the evening with a glass of wine and some live music.

### Word Bookshop

**Open 10am until late on Friday and 9am until late on Saturday and Sunday**

Waterstone's bookshop will be situated in Elphinstone Hall along with the café and restaurant, and where signing events will take place throughout the Word weekend.

### Tap your toes to some traditional tunes at the Word Café.

In partnership with Scottish Culture and Traditions, Word presents daily music performances by some of Aberdeen's leading traditional musicians. Jigs, reels and a few songs – what better way to enjoy a post-event cuppa or glass of wine?

**5pm – 6.30pm, Friday – Sunday, Word Café in Elphinstone Hall.**

**The line-up:**

**Friday Yousedancin'**

**Saturday Danse McCabre**

**Sunday Straefoot**

## Word Hotel Packages

Word is proud to be sponsored by the award winning **Malmaison Hotel** in Aberdeen and this year we have developed some special packages to turn your visit to Word into a luxurious weekend getaway.

### Whisky lovers package

£80 per person per night (based on 2 people sharing a standard room) including an overnight stay with full Scottish breakfast, 2 tickets to the **Ian Buxton Whisky Dinner** at the hotel on Saturday 14th May. (See page 9 for further details about the Whisky dinner). Strictly for those age 18 and over.

### Girls night package

£89 per person per night (based on 2 people sharing a standard room) including an overnight stay with full Scottish breakfast, cocktail on arrival, 2 tickets to an event at the Word festival with **Helen Warner**, complimentary taxi from hotel to the University, and a 30 minute express spa treatment in the luxurious Malmaison Spa. (See page 6 for further details about the Helen Warner event).

**Call the hotel to book on 01224 327370, quoting Aberdeen Word Festival and the package name.**

*Standard rooms subject to availability with superior rooms available from £90 per person or £99 per person for each package respectively.*

**The Douglas Hotel** on Aberdeen's Market Street is also offering fantastic rates to Word visitors, please call 01224 582255 for details.

## EAT & DRINK YOUR WORDS

**FREE GLASS OF WINE WITH THIS  
VOUCHER AT THE MAL\***

Present this advert to get a free glass of wine on the 13th, 14th and 15th of May 2011, when you order from the à la Carte menu.

\*Terms and conditions apply. Please ask a member of staff for details.

To book call in or call

**01224 327 370**

or email: [aberdeen@malmaison.com](mailto:aberdeen@malmaison.com)

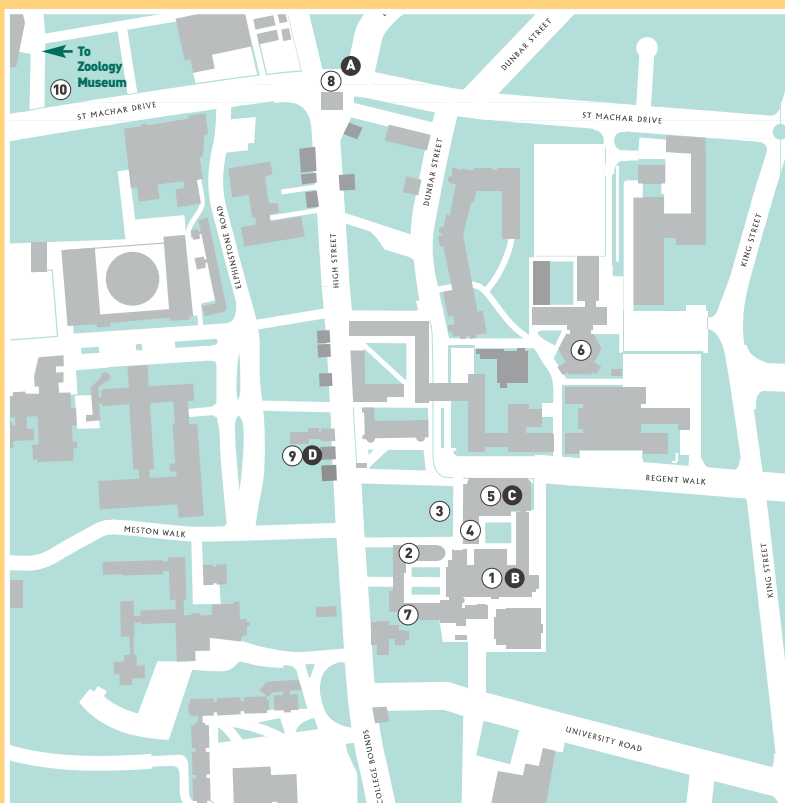
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# Word Perfect Weekend

## Getting to Word



### King's College Campus

University of Aberdeen, King's College Campus, Aberdeen AB24 3FX

#### FESTIVAL VENUES

- 1 Box Office  
King's College Centre  
City of Aberdeen Room  
Multimedia Room
- 2 King's College Chapel
- 3 Festival Theatre Marquee
- 4 Linklater Rooms
- 5 Elphinstone Hall – Festival Café, Restaurant & Bookshop
- 6 Arts Lecture Theatre
- 7 Storytelling Theatre & Imagination Corner
- 8 Old Town House
- 9 King's Museum
- 10 Zoology Museum

#### EXHIBITIONS CAMPUS

- A Gray Stuff – Alasdair Gray  
Real and Imagined World – Victoria Crowe
- B Images of North
- C Millie – Bob Dewar
- D 100 Curiosities

**By Car:** University Postcode: AB24 3FX

GPS: Lat: 57:09:54N (57.16501), Lon: 2:05:57W (-2.09912)

Parking at King's College is limited. We encourage you to use public transport.

**By Local Bus:** Bus services from Aberdeen City Centre to King's College Campus:

First Bus: 1, 2, 13, 14, 20, 19, 4, Stagecoach: 50, 51, 260, 263, 267, 268, 291.

Aberdeen buses require exact fare, so have the correct coins ready, or buy a bus Farecard from local shops.


Visit [www.abdn.ac.uk/word](http://www.abdn.ac.uk/word) for travel information.

**ScotRail** has a number of leisure tickets to suit those travelling to the Word Festival. For those travelling from further afield we have great value fares available for small groups of three or four people travelling together.

Customers travelling from Glasgow/Edinburgh to Aberdeen cost per person £10.55 and from Inverness to Aberdeen costs £7.95 (Based on 4 people travelling). To book call **08457 55 00 33** or log onto [www.scotrail.co.uk](http://www.scotrail.co.uk)

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**01224645200** 15 Belmont Street, Aberdeen - AB10 1JR  
[www.spicedabba.com](http://www.spicedabba.com)

## ScotRail is proud to be the Official Public Transport Provider to the Word Festival.

As the main rail provider in Scotland, ScotRail operates 95% of rail services across the country as well as the Caledonian Sleeper service between Scotland and London.

- We have a range of fares designed to meet the requirements of commuter, business and leisure travellers; including Flexipasses, Season Tickets, group travel discounts, fun days out and children travelling for free off-peak all week and all day at weekends with our Kids Go Free ticket.

For more information on timetables and tickets, and to read about ongoing investments in improving the overall journey experience for customers, visit [www.scotrail.co.uk](http://www.scotrail.co.uk)

UK Passenger Operator of the Year 2009

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SCOTLAND'S RAILWAY



UNIVERSITY  
OF ABERDEEN



# Schools' and Children's Festival

Programme  
**10–15 May 2011**



**word,**  
University of Aberdeen Writers Festival





# Welcome to the **Marathon Oil Schools' and Children's Festival!**

We have a great selection of events for pupils and teachers to enjoy in the **Schools' Programme** such as storytelling, drama, hands-on workshops as well as meeting some of your favourite authors in this year's packed programme.

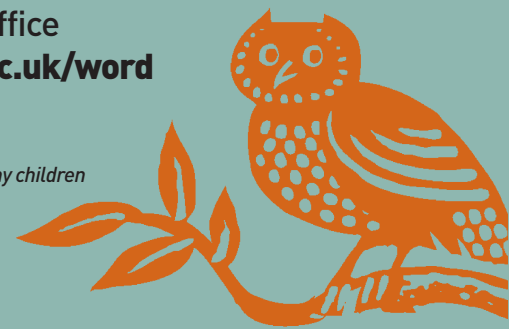
The Schools' booking line opens at **9.30am** on **Monday 28th March**. To arrange a booking, contact Jill Burnett in the Events Office on **01224 273874** or email [jill.burnett@abdn.ac.uk](mailto:jill.burnett@abdn.ac.uk). When making a booking, please indicate how many pupils and teachers will be attending the event. All events are free and take place at the University of Aberdeen, King's College.

The **Children's Programme** is as exciting as ever offering children and families free events for toddlers up to young teens. We have teamed up with The Reading Bus, Aberdeen Arts Centre, Satrosphere and TechFest to offer interactive workshops as well as some of our favourite authors who will read us award winning stories. The **Festival face painter** will be available in Elphinstone Hall from **12 noon – 4.30pm** throughout the weekend.

To book tickets for the Children's Festival, contact Aberdeen Box Office by telephoning **+44 (0)1224 641122** or book online at [www.abdn.ac.uk/word](http://www.abdn.ac.uk/word). Tickets will be available on **Monday 28 March**.

*PLEASE NOTE: All children and adults require tickets for each event. When booking tickets, please indicate how many children and adults will be attending the event.*

*Children under 5 must be accompanied by a parent/guardian at all times.*



## Notes for Teachers

All Word Schools' Festival events present opportunities for interdisciplinary learning. Workshops cover a range of curriculum areas, with an emphasis on Literacy Across Learning. Young people can let their imaginations fly, exploring the richness and diversity of language in exciting sessions that support development of the four capacities of **A Curriculum for Excellence**.



This symbol denotes areas and levels of the **Curriculum for Excellence** for teachers to consider. Thanks to the **Arts Education Team** at Aberdeen City Council for helping with the **Curriculum for Excellence** areas and levels.

## School Events: **Tuesday 10 May**

### Jungle Jolly

**10am – 11.30am** | King's College Centre, King's College | P1 – P3

Come along and enjoy some drama, games and crafts in this special jungle themed workshop with **Marie** and **Emma** from Aberdeen Arts Centre. Be warned, you never know what you may come across in the Jungle!



*Curriculum areas: Languages, Expressive Arts, Sciences. Curriculum level: First*

### The Millie Tour

**10.30am – 12 noon** | The Reading Bus, King's College | Nursery – P3

Join much loved author **Sheena Blackhall** onboard The Reading Bus and enjoy her latest book about a beloved Dalmatian dog who loves to steal sandwiches! Sheena will also share stories, poems, songs and animated films in this highly interactive session. Find out more on the dedicated Millie website by visiting [www.readingbus.co.uk](http://www.readingbus.co.uk)



*Curriculum areas: Languages, Expressive Arts. Curriculum level: Early / First*



## School Events: **Tuesday 10 May**

### **Workshop:** How to make a book from a cow

10am – 11am | Old Senate Room, King's College | P5 – P7

Join **Siobhán Convery** from the University of Aberdeen's Special Collections to learn about the art of making manuscript books. Find out about medieval scribes, illustrators and printers and see some of the treasures from our collections!



*Curriculum areas: Languages, Social Studies, Technologies. Curriculum level: Second*

### **Animal Antics**

1pm – 2.30pm | King's College Centre, King's College | P4 – P7

Join **Marie** and **Emma** from Aberdeen Arts Centre for this fun filled workshop exploring drama, games and crafts with a special animal theme. Come along to make your very own favourite animal and watch it come alive.



*Curriculum areas: Languages, Expressive Arts, Sciences. Curriculum level: Second*

### **Making Monsters**

1pm – 2pm | King's College Centre, King's College | P2 – P3

Come along to hear bestselling author and illustrator **Ross Collins** explain how he creates monsters, vampires and werewolves. Ross will also be reading some of his award winning books and will give pupils hints and tips about how they can draw their very own monsters. Scary stuff!



*Curriculum areas: Languages, Expressive Arts. Curriculum level: First*

### **The Millie Tour**

1pm – 2.30pm | The Reading Bus, King's College | Nursery – P3

Join much loved author Sheena Blackhall onboard The Reading Bus and enjoy her latest book about a beloved Dalmatian dog who loves to steal sandwiches! Sheena will also share stories, poems, songs and animated films in this highly interactive session. Find out more on the dedicated Millie website by visiting [www.readingbus.co.uk](http://www.readingbus.co.uk)



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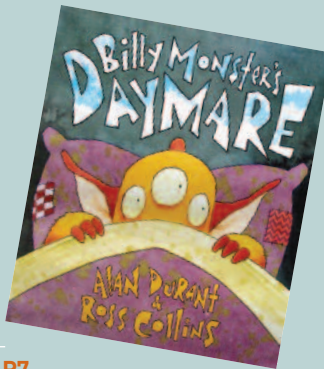


*Curriculum areas: Languages, Social Studies, Technologies. Curriculum level: Second*





# School Events: Wednesday 11 May



## Science Spooks

10am – 11.30am | King's College Centre, King's College | P5 – P7

Come along and meet our very own wizards who'll be revealing some of the science behind potent potions and famous spells.

Presented by TechFest-SetPoint. Supported by the Institute of Physics in Scotland.



Curriculum areas: Languages, Sciences, Technologies. Curriculum level: Second

## Moving Flicks onboard The Reading Bus

10am–11.30am, 1pm–2.30pm (Note: 2 separate sessions) | The Reading Bus, King's College | P5 – P7

Join **Kirsty Aitken** and The Reading Bus Team for an interactive session to create your own animated film. Using literacy across the curriculum this session will combine storytelling, art and music with Apple technology. The finished film will be web mounted on [www.readingbus.co.uk](http://www.readingbus.co.uk)



Curriculum areas: Languages, Expressive Arts, Technologies  
Curriculum level: Second

## Jungle Jolly

10am – 11.30am | King's College Centre, King's College | P1 – P3

Come along and enjoy some drama, games and crafts in this special jungle themed workshop with **Marie** and **Emma** from Aberdeen Arts Centre. Be warned, you never know what you may come across in the Jungle!



Curriculum areas: Languages, Expressive Arts, Sciences. Curriculum level: First

## Animal Antics

1pm – 2.30pm | King's College Centre, King's College | P4 – P7

Join **Marie** and **Emma** from Aberdeen Arts Centre for this fun filled workshop exploring drama, games and crafts with a special animal theme. Come along to make your very own favourite animal and watch it come alive.



Curriculum areas: Languages, Expressive Arts, Sciences. Curriculum level: Second

## Making Monsters

1pm – 2pm | King's College Centre, King's College | P2 – P3

Come along to hear bestselling author and illustrator **Ross Collins** explain how he creates monsters, vampires and werewolves. Ross will also be reading some of his award winning books and will give pupils hints and tips about how they can draw their very own monsters. Scary stuff!



Curriculum areas: Languages, Expressive Arts. Curriculum level: First

## Science: Sorted!

1.30pm – 2.30pm | King's College Centre, King's College | P4 – S2

Join **Glenn Murphy**, author of best-selling kids' science books *Why is Snot Green?* and *How Loud Can You Burp?*, as he explores a world of questions about sciences and nature. See him tackle everything from dinosaurs and vampire bats to moon bases and alien life – all in this funny, fast-paced, audience participation show.



Curriculum areas: Languages, Sciences, Technologies.  
Curriculum level: Second / Third



The Word Festival Schools' Programme is delighted for the first time, to host the **Grampian Children's Book Awards** on Wednesday 11 May. This special book event is for pupils in S1 – S3 from Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire and Moray. Over 400 children will flock onto Campus to hear the winner of the book award chosen by pupils themselves.

In partnership with Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire Council and School librarians.



# The Natural History Centre Poet-Tree Competition

The Natural History Centre is launching an exclusive poetry competition for P5 – P7 to tie in with the **International Year of Forestry**. The competition is open to all primary schools in Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire.

Tell us in a poem why trees are so important to us and the world we live in, as well as the animals who inhabit them. The winning class will receive an exclusive three-day workshop with award winning author **Kenneth Steven** who will visit the school in June.

To enter the competition call **01224 274545** or visit **[www.abdn.ac.uk/nhc](http://www.abdn.ac.uk/nhc)**. Entries must be submitted by **Friday 6 May 2011**.

## School Events: Thursday 12 May

### Science Spooks

10am – 11.30am | King's College Centre, King's College | P5 – P7

Come along and meet our very own wizards who'll be revealing some of the science behind potent potions and famous spells.

*Presented by TechFest-SetPoint. Supported by the Institute of Physics in Scotland.*



*Curriculum areas: Languages, Sciences, Technologies.*

*Curriculum level: Second*

### Creepy Crawlies

10am – 11am, 11am – 12 noon and 1.30pm – 2.30pm (*Note: 3 separate sessions*)  
King's College Centre, King's College | P1 – P3

Join the **Satrosphere team** for a workshop which will explore different types of creepy crawlies. Pupils can see how creatures look and feel and will create their very own poem based on their experience.



*Curriculum areas: Languages, Expressive Arts, Sciences.*

*Curriculum level: First*

### Storytelling and Harp with Grace Banks

1.30pm – 2.30pm | The Reading Bus, King's College | P3 – P5

Join **Grace Banks** for an inspiring journey that combines storytelling and harp music and allows imaginations to open and discover wonder, colour, adventure and a whole spectrum of emotions.



*Curriculum areas: Languages, Expressive Arts.*

*Curriculum level: First*



Secondary pupils from Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire are invited to participate in an exciting short story writing competition based on the theme of ***Lost for Words***.

The winning stories will be selected by a panel of judges and entrants and their families are invited to an exclusive Awards Ceremony on **Sunday 15 May**.

The closing date for the competition is **Thursday 21st April**. Stories should be emailed where possible to Heather Evans **[hevans@aberdeencity.gov.uk](mailto:hevans@aberdeencity.gov.uk)**. For more information, contact Heather on **01224 814533**.



# Word Children's Programme 2011

All events are FREE. See page 19 for ticket booking details.

## Saturday 14 May

### Bookbug Session

10.30am – 11am | Imagination Corner, King's College | Under 5's

Bookbug Sessions are free, fun and friendly events for babies, toddlers, pre-schoolers and their families to enjoy together.

### Science Spooks

1pm – 1.45pm | Imagination Corner, King's College | Ages 8+

Come along and meet our very own wizards who'll be revealing some of the science behind potent potions and famous spells.

*Presented by TechFest-SetPoint  
Supported by the Institute of Physics*

### Fantastic Forests

1pm – 4pm | Natural History Centre, Zoology Building, Tillydrone Avenue | Family

In this *International Year of Forestry*, discover the secrets of a few of our fabulous trees in the wonderful Cruickshank Botanic Gardens. Meet some of the amazing animals that live in trees all over the world in the Zoology Museum and find out how we use trees and why they are so very important to us. Winners of our Primary School Poet-Tree competition will also be announced during the afternoon.

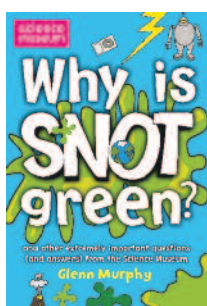
*Supported by John Lewis*

### Yummy Food Lab

1pm – 3pm | Baxters, Fochabers, Moray | Ages 5+

Come along and analyse our menu for the day with specialists from the **University of Aberdeen Rowett Institute for Nutrition and Health**. We will discuss what's so special about our liver, and which drinks have lots of glucose in them. Can you spot the healthy meal? And what colours are there in smarties? Also featuring the infamous spaghetti tower challenge.

*In Association with the University of Aberdeen Rowett Institute for Nutrition and Health*



### Jungle Jinks

2pm – 3pm | Aberdeen Arts Centre, King Street | Ages 3 – 5

There's a rumble in the jungle! Enter an exotic world with storyteller **Sheena Blackhall** and a drama facilitator **Barry Donaldson** to help Ellie the elephant find her missing friend Snappy the crocodile, who is hiding somewhere in the jungle! Watch out though we may spot a tiger or two!

*In Association with Aberdeen Arts Centre*

### Science Spooks

2pm – 2.45pm | Imagination Corner, King's College | Ages 8+

Come along and meet our very own wizards who'll be revealing some of the science behind potent potions and famous spells.

*Presented by TechFest-SetPoint  
Supported by the Institute of Physics*

### Words in the Wild

2pm – 3pm | Woodend Barn, Banchory, AB31 5QA  
Ages 2 – 5 Years

Join **Mandy Tulloch** from Mud Pie Adventures to look for Gruffaloes and hunt for bears, collect some natural treasures and make a special bookmark to take home. Make sure you take along your favourite book/outdoor story as the event will finish off with a storytelling session.

### Science: Sorted!

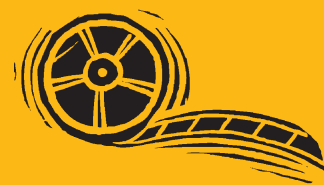
2pm – 3pm | Storytelling Theatre, King's College | Ages 7+

Join **Glenn Murphy**, author of best-selling kids' science books *Why Is Snot Green?* and *How Loud Can You Burp?*, as he explores a world of questions about science and nature. See him tackle everything from dinosaurs and vampire bats to moon bases and alien life – all in one funny, fast-paced, audience participation show.

### Edge Chronicles, Barnaby Grimes & Far Flung Adventures

3pm – 4pm | Linklater Rooms, King's College | Ages 9+

Award-winning duo, **Paul Stewart** and **Chris Riddell** will be giving a dynamic and entertaining talk about their hugely successful *Edge Chronicles* books along with *Far Flung Adventures*, *Barnaby Grimes* plus their new incredible fantasy series, *Wormweald*. Expect live drawing and lots of fun as they take you through a tour of their stunning work.



### Moving Flicks Film Festival

A special celebration of the animated film programme which has been rolled out across 18 different schools by **The Reading Bus** will take place on **Saturday 14 May**. The red carpet will be rolled out as young people gather to showcase their fantastic films.

*This event, and the development of Moving Flicks, has been sponsored by TAQA Bratani Ltd*



### Hop aboard the Reading Bus!

Sat 14 & Sun 15 May  
The Reading Bus  
King's College

The Reading Bus will be on campus throughout the weekend from 2.30pm – 4.00pm.

Families are welcome to jump on board and see what fun and exciting stuff is going on.

# Sunday 15 May

## Bookbug Session

10.30am – 11am | Imagination Corner, King's College | Under 5's

Bookbug Sessions are free, fun and friendly events for babies, toddlers, pre-schoolers and their families to enjoy together.

## Sgeulachdan Eagalach Feagalach Terribly Scary Stories

12 noon – 1pm | Imagination Corner, King's College | Under 8's

Join **Catriona Lexy Campbell** for a storytelling session of traditional tales using drama, movement and songs. The stories will be in both Gaelic and English. All are welcome.

## Stories and Games with Simon Puttock

12 noon – 1pm | Linklater Rooms, King's College | Ages 6 – 8 Years

Join bestselling author **Simon Puttock** for some storytelling from his famous books such as *Love From Louisa* and *The Love Bugs*. You will be able to ask Simon lots of questions about his loveable books and even play some word games. Not one to miss!

## Storytelling and Harp with Grace Banks

1pm – 2pm | The Reading Bus, King's College | Family

Families are invited to join **Grace Banks** for an inspiring journey that combines storytelling and harp music and allows imaginations to open and discover wonder, colour, adventure and a whole spectrum of emotions.

## A Play in a Day

1pm – 4pm | Imagination Corner, King's College  
Ages 12 – 16 years (breaks & light refreshments included)

Calling all young theatre enthusiasts! Come along and join drama tutors/director **Marie Skene** and **Barry Donaldson** for a big challenge in creating a new piece of youth theatre in one day. The theme for the day is ghosts of Old Aberdeen. At the end of the session, we will share each other's finished works.

## Car Boot Science

1.30pm – 2pm | Meet outside Elphinstone Hall | Ages 8+

Car Boot Science is parking up at this year's Word Festival with a lively look at the physics of everything, including a set of demonstrations specially brewed for *International Year of Chemistry*.

*Chemistry with a Capital P* is sponsored by the Institute of Physics and presented by the University of Aberdeen and TechFest-SetPoint.

## Words in the Wild

2pm – 3pm, | Meet outside Elphinstone Hall | Ages 2 – 5 years

Join **Mandy Tulloch** from Mud Pie Adventures to look for Gruffaloes and hunt for bears, collect some natural treasures and make a special bookmark to take home. Make sure you take along your favourite book/outdoor story as the event will finish off with a storytelling session.

## That's Rubbish Puppet Show

2pm – 3pm | Linklater Rooms, King's College | Ages 3 – 11 years

Come and join **Dragonfly Dreaming Puppet Theatre** for a show which uses animated thoughts and feelings of puppet characters made from plastic bags, discarded fruit and thrown away milk bottles to tell a story of how we deal with our everyday waste. This interactive event is performed from inside a giant transformable skip and may also include a rat or two!

## What's the Story Award Ceremony

2pm – 3pm | Festival Marquee, King's College | Family

Word is delighted to once again work in collaboration with the **Arts Education Teams** of Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire Councils to host the award ceremony for this year's **What's the Story** competition. Pupils from secondary schools across Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire are invited to submit a short story based on the theme of *Lost for Words*. The winners will be announced at this exclusive awards ceremony, where we will also celebrate the launch of *Something to Celebrate*. Come and meet the next up and coming literary stars of the future. See page 22 for competition details

## Car Boot Science

2.30pm – 3pm | Meet outside Elphinstone Hall | Ages 8+

Car Boot Science is parking up at this year's Word Festival with a lively look at the physics of everything, including a set of demonstrations specially brewed for *International Year of Chemistry*.

*Chemistry with a Capital P* is sponsored by the Institute of Physics and presented by the University of Aberdeen and TechFest-SetPoint.

