

Friday March 19

Time and Humour"

Swedish **Christopher Brookmyre** has produced a novel a year since 1996 and to great critical and commercial success. "Quite Ugly One Morning" launched his career and won him the inaugural Edinburgh Blood Award for the best debut crime novel. In 2000 he was awarded the Sherlock Award for the best comic detective with Jack Parlabane. His latest novel, "A Tale Etched in Blood and Hard Black Oil", is causing a stir.

Friday April 16

Straightening Out Miss Brodie"

Ian Campbell, Professor of Scottish and Victorian Literature at Edinburgh University, will discuss the problem which arises when a text like "The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie", whose time scheme is deliberately convoluted, is 'straightened out' for the purpose of a film. It allows some consideration of how time schemes can contribute to the effect and success of novels, particularly in the last hundred years.

Professor Campbell was one of our society's earliest speakers when we were formed over 15 years ago and it is a pleasure to welcome him back.

Friday May 21

Annual General Meeting

and "Summit Talks"

For the administrative business there will be two short lectures, the first by society president and vice-president **Rennie McOwan** who will speak about Alistair MacIntyre's classic book of the outdoors, "Always with me Further", which has Stirling links. Rennie will also show some slides.

The second talk is by **Jacquetta Megarry** who will speak about how technology has reinvented the relationship between author, reader and publisher. Jacquetta, one of our members who has walked and climbed in many countries, set up Rucksack Readers in Dunblane six years ago.

Admission Free. Refreshments after the meeting.

Stirling Literary Society

Committee

President & Vice chair - Rennie McOwan
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Honorary members:

Pat Greenhill OBE	Jean Angus
Alan Rennie	June Robertson
Eileen F.B. Sedgewick	

The society aims to promote, encourage and deepen enjoyment of all branches of literature, poetry, prose, plays, scripts, stories and novels



Stirling Literary Society

Sept 2006 - May 2007

"The Love of Books, the
Golden Key that opens the
Enchanted Door."

Andrew Lang (1844 - 1912)
from "Ballade of the Bookworm."

Live
Literature
Scotland





Stirling Literary Society

All lectures at 7.30pm in the Smith Art Gallery and Museum, Stirling, unless otherwise stated.

Annual membership £10.00
Admission (including refreshments)
members £2.00, non members £3.00

2006

There will be **theatre outings** in the autumn of 2006 and spring of 2007, plus coach outings to literary sites (details to be announced).

Monday September 18

"Conscientious Warrior: Robin Jenkins"

Sobel Murray is Honorary Research Professor in modern Scottish Literature at Aberdeen University, where, in her own words, she taught "for a very long time". She is particularly interested in novelist Robin Jenkins' obsession with war, which was first manifested in his conscientious objection to serving in the Second World War, and she will concentrate mainly on four novels, "The Cone-Gatherers", "Guests of War", "Fergus Lamont" and "Trust Duffy"

Monday October 16

"The Secret Sharer - On Talking to Writers"

Brian Morton has been an academic in Britain, France and Norway, has published 12 books and his daily arts programme ran for seven years on BBC Radio Scotland. He has also broadcast on BBC Radio 2, 3 and 4 and World Service and on

"Cinnidh an spiorad troimh sgrìobhadh"

"The spirit thrives through writing"

television and has a great love of jazz and classical music. In addition to writing books and articles he is a saxophonist and composer.

Monday November 20

"Telling Tales"

Playwright, broadcaster and novelist **Ronald Frame** has been having his fiction published for the last 20 years and winning prizes for it. Be it in the form of novels, short stories or radio or TV drama, he believes strongly in the virtues of narrative. He thinks of himself as a storyteller first and foremost. For that, he feels an author should write, rather than wish to be seen or heard.

Making an exception to prove a rule, he will talk about how his own stories come to be written.

Friday December 1

"Scotland and Russia"

A St Andrew's Tide celebration of the literary, historic and cultural links between Scotland and Russia will take place at the Park Lodge Hotel, Stirling. The chief participants are the **Rt. Hon. Tam Dalyell, M.P.**, former leader of the House of Commons and now President of the Scotland-Russia Forum, **Billy Kay**, historian, writer and broadcaster, and singer **Sheena Wellington**. A memorable evening is expected. Supper will be served along with supporting toasts (members will receive details by letter).

Monday December 18

"Free Speech, Artistic Expression and Santa Claus"

Literary artist and filmmaker **Jock Ferguson** believes (he says) in all three. Based in Cupar, he runs Herald Films and Events and plays Robert the Bruce and

Fergus the Pict in educational visits to schools and museums. He also claims to do Sean Connery lookalike work and is a vigorous defender of the arts in Scotland, particularly for children. A Pictish Free State is his ideal situation and his other activities include murder-mystery nights and historic presentations with music. (Christmas drinks and eats will be served at this lecture/performance).

2007

Monday January 15

"Ways of Writing Life"

Bannockburn born **Andrew Greig** has been exploring the fields of poetry, non-fiction and novels for 35 years. His rural roots followed by a coastal upbringing in Fife constantly appear in his work. He has written six volumes of poetry, two mountaineering books chronicling Himalayan expeditions in which he took part and five novels, including the much praised "The Return of John MacNab". His latest book, "Preferred Lies", is an exploration of Scotland, transience, loss and joy through golf. He will discuss these genres, with readings from his books.

Monday February 19

"To Travel Hopefully"

Novelist, teacher, screenplay and short story writer and translator **Christopher Rush** discusses his writings with us, and particularly his forthcoming childhood memoir "Hellfire and Herring".

He has won three Scottish Arts Council bursaries, two SAC book awards for "Peace Comes Dropping Slow" and "A Twelvemonth and a Day", twice short-listed for Scottish Book of the Year Award and short-listed for McVitie Scottish Writers of the Year for screenplay of "Venus Peter".

"Ah, the pair chiel! Has it come to that?"

- Caitheas blacksmith and friend of the family on hearing that Robert Louis Stevenson had become a writer rather than an engineer or practising as a lawyer.