

world and with the 'wildscape' of the Hebrides. He will talk about the inspiration behind his latest volume and read some of the poems.

Monday April 21

"The Land That Drifted"

James Robertson, who grew up in Bridge of Allan, discusses and reads extracts from the book he has been writing for the last two years: a panoramic novel (as yet untitled) charting the political, social and cultural changes that occurred in Scotland between the end of the Second World War and the re-establishment of a Parliament in Edinburgh in 1999.

His previous novels are "The Fanatics", "Joseph Knight" and "The Testament of Gideon Mack". He is also a poet and co-founder and editor of the children's Scots language imprint Itchy Coo.

Monday May 19

Annual General Meeting

After the administrative business, writer and broadcaster **Kath Hardie**, one of our earliest members, will talk about author Maurice Walsh and the links between the Society and the Friends of Maurice Walsh in Ireland. These links have become close over the years and a delegation from the Society visited Ireland for the unveiling of a bust of Maurice Walsh and a group from Ireland toured Walsh sites in Scotland. (Admission Free).

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

Stirling Literary Society

Committee

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Pat Greenhill OBE
Alan Rennie
Eileen F.B. Sedgewick

Jean Angus
June Robertson
Elizabeth Meehan



Stirling Literary Society

Sept 2007 - May 2008

"Books are a finer world
within a world."

Alexander Smith (1830 - 1867)

Live
Literature
Scotland





Stirling Literary Society

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

Annual membership £10.00

Admission (including refreshments),
members £3.00, non members £5.00

2007

There will be **theatre outings** in the autumn of 2007 and spring of 2008, plus coach outings to literary sites (details to be announced).

Monday September 17

"Growing Up With The BBC"

Marista Leishman talks about her book, "My Father - Reith of the BBC". Marista has worked in a steel works, played the organ in Westminster Abbey, looked for treasure on a west of Scotland island, been kidnapped, driven a main-line train, taken an arts degree at St. Andrew, worked for the National Trust for Scotland and formed her own company, developing staff professionalism in arts and culture.

Monday October 15

"Poetry, Prose And The Scots Language"

Dr James Begg was a GP in Ayr for 32 years and also for 21 years at HMS Gannet, Prestwick, and wrote two books, "Rescue 177" and "Burning and Turning", covering his helicopter search and rescue experiences. His poetry has been broadcast and he is a past winner

of the Scottish National Open Poetry Competition and of the Robert McLellan Tassie. In 1991 he published a volume of poetry and short stories in Ayrshire Scots. His talk will be on Scots as he sees and hears it, illustrated with readings.

Monday November 19

"St. Andrew, Old And New"

Dr Michael T.R.B. Turnbull, historian and lecturer, is currently revising his book manuscript "Saint Andrew: Scotland's Myth And Identity" for publication. He will chart the fascinating story of the cult of the Apostle Andrew whose stage is the world.

The Saltire Cross is a dynamic symbol for Andrew, the Apostle of Networking. Scotland, Greece and Russia share him as a patron saint and this helps give each of these countries a global orientation.

Monday December 17

"The Carrying Stream"

This festive presentation in poetry and song by **Geordie McIntyre** and **Alison McMorland**, will highlight the legacy and work of Hamish Henderson (1918 - 2002), poet, songwriter, folklorist, linguist and Soldier-For-Peace.

Alison has enjoyed a long involvement in traditional music: singer, collector, broadcaster and publisher. She is a tutor on the Scottish music course at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama, Glasgow.

Geordie is a Glaswegian of Highland and Irish descent. His lifetime involvement in song, ballad and poetry is reflected in his singing, collecting and songwriting.

"Aye wiz mind - yer sins go doon beside yer name in the Book of nae rubbin' oot"

- Bill Duncan, "The Wee Boob o' Calvin"

2008

Monday January 21

"John Buchan Today"

Dr Owen Dudley Edwards, writer, broadcaster, former Reader in History at Edinburgh University, and an authority on the life and works of Conan Doyle, Oscar Wilde, and P.G. Wodehouse and literature and politics in Ireland and the United States, examines the achievements of John Buchan and discusses whether his reputation as a novelist and historian is still strong today. This is Dr Dudley Edwards fourth visit to the Society.

Monday February 18

"Scotland And The Spanish Civil War"

Having already researched the topic during his time in Newcastle University, **Daniel Gray** recently completed a book on Scottish involvement in the Spanish Civil War, to be published by Luath Press. His first book, "The Historical Dictionary of Marxism", a reference work, was published in 2006. Daniel works at the National Library of Scotland cataloguing the John Murray Archive, specialising in the papers of Lord Byron.

He will talk on Scotland's role in the war in Spain and some of the literature that the conflict gave rise to.

Monday March 17

"Salt And Light"

Kenneth Steven is a poet, children's writer and prose writer based in Dunkeld, on the edge of Highland Perthshire.

He has written seven collections of poetry: his most recent work, "Salt And Light", is very much inspired by his love for, and fascination with, the Celtic Christian

"Se fìor charaid leabhar"

(**"A book is the best of friends"**)