

**Monday March 15**

### **The Never Ending Story: the Second World War in Scottish Literature**

Emeritus Professor of Scottish Literature at Glasgow University, **Dr Douglas Gifford**, makes a very welcome return to our Society and will speak about his latest book.

Professor Gifford was one of our earliest speakers and it is always a pleasure to hear and see him in action.

**Monday April 19**

### **Dead Poets, Living Poems**

It is often assumed that knowledge of the poet and his or her biography can help to explain the creative process and meaning of their poems.

**Alasdair Macrae**, retired lecturer and critic, explores this notion in relation to some Scottish poets he has personally known and how their poems work.

**Monday May 17**

### **Annual General Meeting**

After the Society's administrative business, Stirling's first Makar in 500 years; writer, poet and performer **Magi Gibson**, will speak about 'Making a Makar'. This promises to be a delightful evening and a splendid opportunity to hear and meet your Makar.

**The Society aims to promote, encourage and deepen enjoyment of all branches of literature, poetry, prose, plays, scripts, stories and novels and including TV, radio and films.**

## Stirling Literary Society

### **Committee**

President – Rennie McOwan  
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Chair – Margaret Sutherland  
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– Eileen Marshall  
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### **Committee Members**

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Denis Frize	01786 824541
Eleanore Hunter	01786 472396
Kathy O'Donnell	01786 870724
Mary Whyte	01786 461287

### **Honorary members**

Pat Greenhill OBE	Jean Angus
Alan Rennie	June Robertson
Elizabeth Meehan	Tom McOwan
Elsbeth King	

[www.stirlingliterarysociety.org.uk](http://www.stirlingliterarysociety.org.uk)  
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# Stirling Literary Society

**Sept 2009 - May 2010**

**"There is no friend as loyal  
as a book."**

**Ernest Hemingway**

Live  
Literature  
Scotland



[www.stirlingliterarysociety.org.uk](http://www.stirlingliterarysociety.org.uk)



# Stirling Literary Society

All lectures at 7:30 pm in the Smith Art Gallery and Museum, Stirling, unless otherwise stated.

**Annual membership** £12.00  
Admission (including refreshments),  
Members £3.00, non members £5.00

## 2009

**Saturday 5th September**

### **Coach outing:**

Pitlochry Theatre, "Whisky Galore" - a musical!

**Monday September 21**

### **The 21st Century Library**

Stirling has made significant contributions to the 21st century library service. **Steve Dolman**, Service Development Librarian for Stirling Council Libraries and an entertaining speaker, has wide experience in school and public libraries. His talk will examine the history of the local library service, highlight the wide range of services available from today's libraries and look at how the service is likely to evolve in the years ahead.

**Monday October 19**

### **Wirds in Yer Lugs**

**Dr Christine Robinson** is the Director of Scottish Language Dictionaries, Preses of the Scots Language Society and Chair of the Association for Scottish Literary Studies Language Committee. She has taught

Scots language at the University of Edinburgh and the University of the Highlands and Islands Millennium Institute for many years and also teaches academic writing skills to post graduates at Edinburgh University. She is the author of several books and articles on Scots Language and compiles the Word of the Week for the Herald newspaper. Her research interests focus on Older Scots, but include Modern Scots as well.

**Monday November 16**

### **A MacDonald in the Camp of Sitting Bull**

The Indian Wars of the 19th century American west have featured in a thousand myth-making movies, but historical fact can be stranger than Hollywood fiction. So **Professor James Hunter** demonstrates in his account of a family with both Native American and Highland ancestry – a family whose present-day members live on Montana's Flathead Reservation and whose ancestors include Indian tribal chiefs as well as chiefs of one of the most renowned Scottish clans.

Dr Hunter is director of the UHI Centre for History, a former chairman of Highlands and Islands Enterprise and the author of eleven books on Highland themes.

**Monday December 21**

### **A Leith Childhood**

Playwright, novelist and storyteller **Millie Gray** will speak about her experiences of growing up in Leith. Also Arts Champion for Older People in Scotland, her most recent novel is *A Class of Their Own*. Her creative career started when she was retired prematurely

on health grounds – this allowed her to take up her writing hobby seriously and she has written and had staged seven plays. Last year her first novel reached Best Seller category in Edinburgh's Ocean Terminal Waterstones.

## 2010

**Monday January 18**

### **A Life of Crime**

Crime writing will be the focus of **Aline Templeton's** lecture. With her seventh novel, *Cold in the Earth*, Edinburgh author Aline began a series of classic crime novels set in Galloway featuring DI Marjory Fleming. It continues with *The Darkness and the Deep*, *Lying Dead* and *Lamb to the Slaughter*. The fifth in the series, *Dead in the Water*, was published in May 2009. Her books have been published in translation in several European countries as well as the United States.

**Monday February 15**

### **The Sky's the Limit**

Writer, author and broadcaster **Anna Magnusson** became a radio producer with the BBC in 1988 and has made radio documentaries all over the world.

*The Sky's the Limit* is the story of Vicki Jack, who was in her forties before she made her record-breaking climbs of the seven summits- the highest peaks on the seven continents- in seven years. Prompted by Magnus Magnusson, Vicki asked his daughter Anna to write her story, and the result is a vivid, exciting and warm account of a remarkable adventure and a remarkable character.

**"Tha gradh ar duthcha agus ar canain sniomhte troimh sgeul is rann."  
("The love of our land and our language is woven through story and verse")**

**"That I for poor auld Scotland's sake some usefu'  
plan or book could make, or sing a sang at least."**

- Robert Burns