

Services. He has been responsible for commissioning some 1000 books in his career so far. Prior to publishing he worked as a bookseller and a book sales representative. He'll be speaking on the Scottish publishing industry and will be happy to answer questions on any aspect of the publishing industry from micro to macro.

Monday March 17

A Writer's Journey

Award winning Scottish novelist **Christopher Brookmyre** makes a return visit to the Society. Formerly a journalist, he is the winner of the 2007 Glenfiddich Spirit of Scotland Award and the 2006 Bollinger Everyman Wodehouse Award for Comic Fiction. He is author of fourteen published novels to date. Christopher will speak about his latest novel and his journey to becoming a writer.

Monday April 21

Salute to Scotland's Literati

"O Caledonia, stern and wild,
Meet nurse for a poetic child."

Over the centuries, Scotland has absorbed elements of culture and language from a variety of sources and that diversity is reflected in the work of our writers. In this year of national celebration, **Jean Barlow** takes a light-hearted look at their contributions to our rich literary heritage. Special musical guest **Kathie Costello** will also feature.

Monday May 19

Annual General Meeting and Maurice Walsh

After the Society's administrative business, pioneer of the Society **Kath Hardie** will attempt to answer the question "Whatever happened to Maurice Walsh?". With his sense of place, the lore and the descriptions of landscape make for a richness which is peculiar to Maurice Walsh. In addition, his cast of characters, his knowledge of history and gentle humour all ensure, even in this modern age, a satisfying read. Kath has broadcast drama, poetry and short stories both in Scotland and Ireland.

Stirling Literary Society

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Honorary Members

Jean Angus	Elizabeth Meehan
Mary Cooper	Elizabeth Pirie
Rev. Dr. Ian M. Fraser	Alan Rennie
Elspeth King	Janet Ross MBE
Tom McOwan	Margaret Sutherland

Stirling Literary Society has attractive fine bone china mugs available for purchase.

www.stirlingliterarysociety.org.uk
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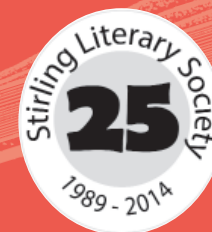


Stirling Literary Society

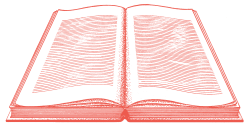
Sept 2013 - May 2014

**"A room without books is like a
body without a soul."**

Marcus Tullius Cicero



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 £15.00

Admission (including refreshments),

Members £3.00, non members £5.00

SLSS 25

2014 will mark the start of Stirling Literary Society's 25th year. It was founded in September 1989 by Rennie and Agnes McOwan and a group of friends. The Society initially met in members' houses and then moved to the Old Town Coffee Shop and, latterly, to The Smith. Previous speakers have included; Ian Rankin, Catherine Lockerbie, Owen Dudley Edwards, Douglas Gifford, Valerie Gillies, Richard Holloway, James Hunter, Alasdair Macrae, Alan Taylor and Billy Kay.

Monday October 21

Making Nothing Happen

Scotland's National Poet, dramatist, and veteran performer, **Liz Lochhead** appears in a celebration of the word - poems, monologues, characters, lyrics, and theatre pieces. The first work that brought her to wider notice was *Memo for Spring* (1972). Her latest is *Edwin Morgan's Dreams – and Other Nightmares*, a play about her friend and fellow poet, Edwin Morgan. He was Scotland's first Makar, or National Poet, and when he died, she succeeded him in 2011.

Monday November 18

The Cradle to the Grave

Margaret Bennett is a folklorist, writer, singer and broadcaster. She was brought up in a family of tradition bearers, Gaelic on her mother's side, Lowland Scots on her father's. Formerly lecturer at the University of Edinburgh, she now lectures part-time at the Royal

The Society aims to promote, encourage and deepen enjoyment of all branches of literature and media.

Conservatoire of Scotland. Dr Bennett will base her talk on her absorbing anthology of Scottish customs and rites of passage and will draw upon a broad range of literary and oral sources.

Monday December 16

Poems and Songs of the Scottish Hills

Geordie McIntyre and **Alison McMorland** will present a programme of landscape inspired songs which celebrate the great outdoors. Geordie's lifetime involvement in song, ballads and poetry is reflected in his singing, collecting and song writing. Songs and singing traditions have been part of Alison's life since early childhood. Her long association with traditional music has been multi-faceted, embracing recordings, radio, theatre, teaching and publications.

2013

Monday September 16

Crime (writing) does pay, but is it literature?

Crime fiction is Scotland's favourite literary genre and its 'tartan noir' proponents are our most popular literary exports. Yet it struggles to gain critical acceptance alongside literary fiction. Is this fair and do its writers care as long as they sell well? A former journalist, **Craig Robertson** had a 20-year career with a Scottish Sunday newspaper before becoming a full-time author. His gritty crime novels are set on the mean streets of contemporary Glasgow. His first novel, *Random*, was shortlisted for the 2010 CWA New Blood Dagger and was long listed for the 2011 Crime Novel of the Year.

Saturday September 21

Pitlochry Festival Theatre coach outing

Alan Ayckbourn's **A Chorus of Disapproval** is the funniest and most wickedly accurate portrait of *am dram* life ever created. Ticket price £28. for matinee performance includes return coach travel from Stirling. All welcome.

2014

Monday January 20

Reality and Dreams

Rosemary Goring is literary editor of *The Herald* and *Sunday Herald*. She'll look at the pitfalls, presumptions and pleasures of writing fiction about real people. How accurate are these portrayals, and how fair? Historical fiction is the first home of literary bodysnatching, but the trend has crept closer in recent years, with fiction about modern individuals becoming increasingly popular. Regardless of the period, where do you draw the line between legitimate artistic enquiry, and trespass? Rosemary is the author of *Scotland: the Autobiography*, and the novel *After Flodden*, in which real characters mingle with the imaginary.

Monday February 17

Running even faster on the spot: Scottish Publishing

Hugh Andrew is Managing Director and founder of Birlinn Ltd and is also Director of Compass Publishing

**“Cha do leugh, nach do dh'ionnsaich.”
“He who has read has learned.”**

**“A guid buik is like a kist o' gowd”
“A good book is like a chest of gold”**