

# Get involved in PBF 2026!

We are seeking volunteers to help plan and run PBF. You will be particularly welcome if you have accounting, fundraising, IT, marketing, social media or WordPress skills. Young people with an interest in event management, marketing or hospitality who want to get practical experience are also welcome.

Around January we will be running an Open Call for authors interested in speaking in November 2026 about their recently published books. Keep an eye on our website and social media for details.

## Support us

If you've enjoyed events why not help support PBF with a donation? Your contribution will help ensure we can continue delivering this fantastic event year after year.

We are using Crowdfunder to accept donations:

[www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/pbf2025](http://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/pbf2025)



## Welcome

Thank you for picking up our Pentlands Book Festival 2025 flyer. This is an annual festival with talks by authors held in venues locally. It runs each autumn, coinciding with Book Week Scotland, and is organised by local volunteers in conjunction with Currie and Colinton Libraries. The PBF has been going since 2015—this is our eleventh year!

Events last about an hour and give an opportunity to meet and chat with the authors. Featured books may be on sale, perhaps at a discount, and may be signed.

Check the website for full details of all events. Tickets are essential and are available via the website or Currie or Colinton Library: 0131 529 5609 or 0131 529 5603 respectively.

## Stay connected

To find out more about the speakers in PBF 2025, see our website: [pentlandsbookfestival.org](http://pentlandsbookfestival.org).



Message us using the Contact Form. Sign up to our newsletter and be the first to hear about our plans.

Make sure to follow us on Instagram and Facebook: @pentlandsbookfestival

## Venue locations

This year we have 21 events—50% more than last year. And we are using more venues than ever, distributed across our catchment area. Use the postcodes to locate them if you are not familiar with the venues.

1. Currie Rugby Club, EH14 7AF
2. Currie Library, EH14 5NX
3. Currie Community Centre, EH14 5RU
4. Currie Bowling Club, EH14 5RT
5. Porteous, Juniper Green, EH14 5DA
6. Juniper Green Bowling Club, EH14 5EN
7. Hub@531, Juniper Green, EH14 5DE
8. Baberton Golf Club, Juniper Green, EH14 5DU
9. Tanners, Juniper Green, EH14 5BA
10. Colinton Library, EH13 0BQ
11. St Cuthbert's Colinton Episcopal Church, EH13 0BB



With special thanks to our funders and supporters who have helped make PBF 2025 possible:

**Pentlands Community Chest; Pentlands Community Grant Fund; Scotmid; Scottish Book Trust.**



6 NOV–3 DEC 2025

COLINTON • BALERNO  
JUNIPER GREEN • CURRIE

## Pentlands Book Festival



*Welcome to the Pentlands Book Festival. Our aim is to bring artists and audiences together in a sympathetic space, and to create a feeling of community via a shared love of literature and the arts.*



# Programme overview

# Events at a glance

[pentlandsbookfestival.org](http://pentlandsbookfestival.org)

This year we are introducing some new features to PBF. Our first event recalls the first Pentlands Open Studios Art Trail, which we hope will repeat in years to come.

Rachel Huggins of Dragon Song Productions, Elspeth MacGregor, and Sana Faqir will appeal to the very youngest (parents can come too), while Richard Wiseman will entertain and baffle all ages.

Rebecca Lawrence will discuss more serious mind matters but also how one can flourish even in the most difficult circumstances. Gavin Francis, in a welcome return, discusses how bridges – metaphorical and literal, help support us and build our communities.

But for those of you in a criminal fraternity (or sorority), we have Caro Ramsay, Denise Mina, Stuart Johnstone, Tony Black, Craig Robertson and Alexandra Sokoloff. And if you want to test your own crime-solving abilities, you should join our own Stef Lyons for

an evening of sleuthing.

Less gritty but still a mystery is Janis Mackay's first adult novel, with the same Selkie folklore that made her YA novels so popular.

And if you're just an old geezer/geezerette then Gordon Lawrie is the event for you, while visits to the Edinburgh Museums Collection Centre and the Museum of Musical Instruments will bring back memories.

Also looking back to our past is Fiona Valpy, with her descriptions of the challenges her female characters faced in WWII.

Very different from all of the above, we are proud to welcome an impassioned voice for the conscience of Scotland, Hannah Lavery, distinguished poet and playwright.

If this all makes you want to write, you should come and chat to our newest local authors for inspiration and then sign up to Sandra Ireland's workshop for the practical learning.

	Thu 6 Nov 7.30pm	Pentlands Open Studios Artists <i>PechaKucha</i> Baberton Golf Club		Fri 14 Nov 2pm & 3pm	Elspeth MacGregor <i>A Foghorn Called Charlie</i> Hub@531, Juniper Green		Thu 20 Nov 7.30pm	Caro Ramsay <i>Tartan Noir – Crime and Mystery from Glasgow to the Highlands</i> Baberton Golf Club
	Sat 8 Nov 2pm	Sandra Ireland <i>Over The Hills, Creative Writing Workshop</i> Hub@531, Juniper Green		Sat 15 Nov 2pm	Local authors <i>Marion McGowan, Andy Saunders and Fran Brady</i> Currie Library		Sat 22 Nov 7.30pm	Fiona Valpy <i>Secrets Uncovered – Stories of Love, Loss and Bravery</i> Currie Community Centre
	Mon 10 Nov 7.30pm	Craig Robertson & Alexandra Sokoloff <i>When they met, it was Murder</i> Currie RFC, Main Hall		Sat 15 Nov 3pm	Sana Faqir <i>Learn about Ramadan</i> Hub@531, Juniper Green		Wed 26 Nov 7.30pm	Denise Mina <i>Are You a Good Liar?</i> Porteous, Juniper Green
	Tue 11 Nov 10.30am	Museum of Musical Instruments <i>Literary-themed tour of St Cecilia's Hall</i> 50 Niddry Street, EH1 1LG		Mon 17 Nov 7.30pm	Gavin Francis <i>The Bridge Between Worlds – a Brief History of Connection</i> Currie Community Centre		Thu 27 Nov 7.30pm	Tony Black <i>Gritty Crime Novelist and Bold Edinburgh Storyteller</i> Porteous, Juniper Green
	Tue 11 Nov 7.30pm	Gordon Lawrie <i>When Music and Writing Collide</i> Currie Bowling Club		Tue 18 Nov 7.30pm	Richard Wiseman <i>Mind Magic</i> Juniper Green Bowling Club		Sat 29 Nov 7.30pm	Stef Lyons <i>Slurp and Sleuth: A Body At The Book Festival</i> Tanners, Juniper Green
	Wed 12 Nov 3pm	Rachel Huggins <i>Dragon Song Productions Can Dragons Sing?</i> Colinton Library		Wed 19 Nov 6pm	Rebecca Lawrence <i>An Improbable Psychiatrist</i> Currie Library		Mon 1 Dec 7.30pm	Hannah Lavery <i>Discovering the Unwritten Woman</i> St Cuthbert's Colinton Episcopal Church
	Wed 12 Nov 6pm	Stuart Johnstone <i>Edinburgh Crime Author with a Gripping Police Past</i> Colinton Library		Thu 20 Nov 11am & 2pm	Edinburgh Museums Collection Centre <i>Making Edinburghers Gallus Again</i> 10 Broughton Market, EH3 6NU.		Wed 3 Dec 6pm	Janis Mackay <i>An Entrancing Evening</i> Currie Library