Get involved in PBF2026!

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





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.**



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

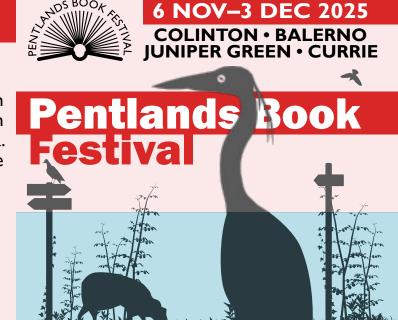
This year we have 21 events—50% more than last year. And we are using more venues than ever, distributed across our catchment area. Use the postcodes to locate them if you are not familiar with the venues.

- I. 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.



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

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 Fagir 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. ters faced in WWII. 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 crimesolving abilities, you should join our own Stef Lyons for

an evening of sleuthing.

Less gritty but still a mystery is lanis 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 charac-

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.

Events at a glance

Sat

2pm

Mon

Tue

10 Nov

7.30pm



Pentlands Open Studios Artists Thu PechaKucha 6 Nov **Baberton Golf Club** 7.30pm



Sandra Ireland Over The Hills, Creative Writing 8 Nov Workshop Hub@531, Juniper Green



Sokoloff When they met, it was Murder Currie RFC, Main Hall

Craig Robertson & Alexandra



Museum of Musical Instruments Literary-themed tour of St Cecilia's 11 Nov Hall 50 Niddry Street, EHI ILG



Tue Gordon Lawrie 11 Nov When Music and Writing Collide Currie Bowling Club



Wed 12 Nov 3pm

Wed

6pm

Rachel Huggins **Dragon Song Productions** Can Dragons Sing? Colinton Library



Stuart Johnstone Edinburgh Crime Author with a 12 Nov Gripping Police Past Colinton Library



Elspeth MacGregor 14 Nov A Foghorn Called Charlie 2pm & Hub@531, Juniper Green



Local authors Marion McGowan, Andy Saunders and Fran Brady Currie Library



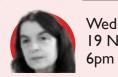
Sana Fagir 15 Nov Learn about Ramadan Hub@531, Juniper Green



Gavin Francis The Bridge Between Worlds – a Brief History of Connection Currie Community Centre



Richard Wiseman 18 Nov Mind Magic Juniper Green Bowling Club



Rebecca Lawrence 19 Nov An Improbable Psychiatrist Currie Library



Edinburgh Museums Collection 20 Nov Centre 11am & Making Edinburghers Gallus Again 10 Broughton Market, EH3 6NU.



from Glasgow to the Highlands Baberton Golf Club Fiona Valpy Secrets Uncovered – Stories of 22 Nov Love, Loss and Bravery

Tartan Noir – Crime and Mystery

Currie Community Centre

Caro Ramsay



Wed Denise Mina 26 Nov Are You a Good Liar? Porteous, Juniper Green



Tony Black Gritty Crime Novelist and Bold Ed-27 Nov inburgh Storyteller Porteous, Juniper Green



Stef Lyons Slurp and Sleuth: A Body At The 29 Nov **Book Festival** Tanners, Juniper Green



Hannah Lavery Discovering the Unwritten Woman I Dec St Cuthbert's Colinton Epis-7.30pm copal Church



Wed Janis Mackay 3 Dec An Entrancing Evening Currie Library