

## What our authors say



**Billy Kay**

"It's always a real pleasure to be at BOOKMARK in Blairgowrie, it's a great event with very appreciative audiences."



**Sally Magnusson**

"BOOKMARK is a great festival and it was lovely to be back...thanks to the organisers who work so hard to make this festival flourish."



**James Robertson**

"There is a really good atmosphere...everyone is very friendly. BOOKMARK has a great feel about it and long may that continue."

[www.bookmarkblair.com](http://www.bookmarkblair.com)



**Merryn Glover**

"BOOKMARK is one of the warmest, friendliest and best organised book festivals in Scotland."



## Tickets

Prices:

- Weekend Pass - £65
- Day Pass - £40
- Individual Events - £12

Tickets are available from:

- BOOKMARK Treasurer 01250 875613
- Blairgowrie Library 01250 871305
- Adventure Into Books 01250 872852
- [www.perthshireboxoffice.com](http://www.perthshireboxoffice.com)

## Venue

BOOKMARK's home for the last ten years has been Blairgowrie Community Campus on Hamish Henderson Place.

The postcode for the campus is PH10 6UZ and the What3Words location is [sake.physics.executive](https://www.what3words.com/sake.physics.executive)

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# BOOKMARK

## 4-5 October 2025

**Andrew Cotter**  
**Hugo Rifkind**  
**Lin Anderson**  
**Billy Kay**  
**Alistair Moffat**  
**Jen Stout**  
**Brigadier Sir Mel Jameson**  
**Flora Johnston**  
**Mollie Hughes**  
**Clare Hunter**  
**Suzy Apsley**  
**Natalie Jane Clark**

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# Welcome to BOOKMARK 2025!

We're delighted to be back for another year and have a wonderful programme lined up once again with something for everyone.

Over the years, BOOKMARK has developed a reputation for being a friendly, well-organised book festival that offers a wide range of events to suit all interests, and our programme this year is no different.

From award-winning writers and household names to exciting new talent, you can be sure of an entertaining and fascinating weekend here in Blairgowrie.

Grab a coffee, browse the book shop and join us on our latest adventure!



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## Saturday 4 October

### 10am - Mollie Hughes with Susan Nicholson

From her journeys to places most of us only read about, adventurer Mollie will be talking about her new book *Breathe: Life Lessons from the Edge of the World*.



### 11.30am - Clare Hunter with Kirstie Campbell

Another popular return to BOOKMARK, Clare has championed the creative world of craft and its historical importance. We look forward to learning more with her new book *Making Matters: In Search of Creative Wonders*.

### 1.30pm - Brigadier Sir Melville Jameson with Magnus Linklater

Former chief executive of the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo, Brigadier Sir Melville Jameson, has written a book about his experiences, and will be sharing extracts from that with us at what promises to be a highly entertaining session.

### 3pm - Jen Stout with Magnus Linklater

Journalist, writer and radio producer Jen knew she had to go to Ukraine to give clear-sighted reports of Russia's invasion. Her astonishing book *Night Train to Odesa* - one of our short-listed Books of the Year - recounts the human cost of the war, some of which she will share with us.

### 4.30pm - Hugo Rifkind with Joyce Caplan

Highly regarded columnist, critic and novelist, Hugo will be talking about why writing is still such an integral part of a world so dependent on visual impact - from so-called 'influencers' to serious news footage.

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## Sunday 5 October

### 10am - Billy Kay with Gail Wylie

One of Scotland's great champions of both the Scots language and the influence of the Scots on the world at large, Billy will share entertaining personal and historical stories from his memoir *Born in Kyle* and other books.

### 11.30am - Flora Johnston with James Robertson

The importance of women in world events dominated by men is the key to Flora's novels *The Paris Peacemakers* (another of our Book of the Year shortlisted titles) and *The Endeavour of Elsie Mackay*, in which she engages her readers with the stories of resilient and humorous women and men damaged by the horrors they have seen.

### 1.30pm - Lin Anderson introduces Suzy Apsley and Natalie Jane Clark

Lin Anderson champions new writers and we're delighted that she is bringing Suzy Apsley, winner of the Bloody Scotland Pitch Perfect award for her novel *Crow Moon*, and runner-up Natalie Jane Clark to BOOKMARK audiences.

### 3pm - Alistair Moffat

An award-winning writer of more than 30 books about Scottish history, Alistair is also a former director of the Edinburgh Fringe, Director of Programmes at Scottish Television and founder of the Borders Book Festival.

### 4.30pm - Andrew Cotter with Sally McNair

After years of commentating on a wide variety of sport for the BBC, highly regarded journalist Andrew was suddenly at a loss when Covid struck so began commenting on the adventures of his Labrador companions Olive and Mabel - who quickly became an internet sensation. Find out more at what promises to be a highly entertaining session!

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