

**\*\*NEWS & UPDATES\*\***

**[Granite Noir \(19-21 Feb\) reveals its 2021 online lineup](#)**

**[SBT's 2021 New Writers Awards announced](#)**

**[New Chapter for EIBF in new venue](#)**

The Edinburgh International Book Festival will take place this year from Saturday 14 to Monday 30 August, and will do so in the indoor and open, grassy outdoor spaces of the University of Edinburgh's Edinburgh College of Art on Lauriston Place.

**[Dictionaries of the Scots Language - formal name change announced](#)**

**[Moniack Mhor introduces Made To Measure Mentoring](#)**

Moniack Mhor's new programme offers a bespoke approach to mentoring in fiction, non-fiction, poetry and songwriting. The pilot scheme supports writers at every level of ability and at every stage of writing.

**[Scottish Books International - Funding Sources](#)**

An up-to-date list of some of the main funding sources for writers, translators, publishers and literary organisations in Scotland is now available on the SBI website.

**[Shuggie Bain longlisted for Rathbones Folio Prize 2021](#)**

**[JOB: Design & Marketing Co-ordinator](#)**

Scottish Book Trust is looking for a Design & Marketing Co-ordinator to co-ordinate design, online content and print production for a wide range of materials/assets and resources. FT, permanent, £21,500-£25,999. **Apply by 5pm on Mon 8 Feb.**

**[JOB: Part-time Admin/Media Support](#)**

This position from Scottish BAME Writers Network will specifically assist with general administrative duties, and website/social media updates with various opportunities and the candidate will speak to BIPOC experiences. £15p/h for 25 hours p/m. **Apply by Sun 14 Feb.**

**[JOB: Part-time Programme Manager](#)**

Scottish BAME Writers Network are looking for a PT Programme Manager to assist with programming duties for their 2021 programme 'Staying Connected'. The candidate will speak to BIPOC experiences. £15 p/h for 20 hours p/m. **Apply by Sun 14 Feb.**

**[JOB: Creative Director and Chief Executive](#)**

Playwrights' Studio Scotland is looking for a person who can enthusiastically engage with the needs and ambitions of Scotland's playwrights. FT salary £40k. **Apply by 5pm on Fri 19 Feb**

**[Shuggie Bain longlisted on Rathbones Folio Prize 2021 Longlist](#)**

**\*\* OPPORTUNITIES \*\***

**[SFF book reviewers wanted](#)**

Shoreline of Infinity are looking for book reviewers with a good knowledge of Science Fiction and Fantasy.

**No deadline.**

### **British Book Awards 2021**

The Nibbies are now open for submissions. New awards for 2021 include Designer of the Year—for the best-in-class book designer—and Pageturner of the Year—aimed at popular fiction titles across all formats.

**Deadline: Fri 5 Feb**

### **The New Gothic Review**

Looking for previously unpublished short stories that embrace and reimagine Gothic fiction for the 21st century.

**Deadline: Sun 7 Feb**

### **Papatango New Writing Prize**

The biggest playwriting award in the UK is seeking audio drama submissions for three prizes. The three winners will each receive £2,000 and their work will be produced as audio plays, which will tour the UK in free listening stations.

**Deadline: midnight on Sun 7 Feb**

### **Our Voices**

This pilot programme from Creative Scotland will support around 40 emerging writers from under-represented communities. Applications are sought from those who have begun to write their first book, who are ready to respond to professional feedback on their writing and would like an opportunity to discuss their ambitions as writers.

**Deadline: Fri 12 Feb**

### **SBWN calls for online workshop pitches**

Send a 300-word pitch to Scottish BAME Writers Network for a 90-min online workshop for writers of colour with some connection to Scotland. This is a paid opportunity. All experience levels welcome.

**Deadline: Sun 14 Feb**

### **SBWN calls for blog pitches**

The Scottish BAME Writers Network is looking for guest bloggers in order to maintain and develop a dynamic blog that shares experiences, thoughts, and musings about a writer's life in Scotland.

**Deadline: Sun 14 Feb**

### **Scottish South Asian Stories**

Glasgow Museums and British Council are offering 14 paid opportunities for people aged 18-25 to write, act, produce, score and digitise a new social media series to be launched for South Asian Heritage Month 2021 to highlight the wealth of Scottish South Asian history in Glasgow and the surrounding areas.

**Deadline: midnight on Sun 14 Feb**

### **Butcher's Dog**

Looking for poems from UK poets for Issue 15 of Butcher's Dog magazine

**Deadline: midnight on Sun 14 Feb**

### **Indie Book Awards 2021**

The Indie Book Awards is calling for publisher entries across four categories: fiction, non-fiction, children's fiction and picture book. Independent booksellers across the UK and Ireland vote on submitted titles to create a shortlist announced on 15 May.

**Deadline: Mon 15 Feb**

### **Nyx Publishing: Queer Gothic Short Stories**

Looking for short stories for an anthology with a flat rate of £40 for successful submissions.  
**Deadline: Sat 20 Feb**

#### [50-word story](#)

The prompt for this month's Scottish Book Trust writing competition is: write a story about exercising - and get a host of literary prizes. Includes a category for Gaelic writers supported by The Gaelic Books Council.

**Deadline: midnight on Tue 23 Feb**

#### [Youth Arts Small Grant Scheme](#)

Open to freelance artists and creative practitioners living and working in Scotland looking to work directly with children and young people. Applicants can apply for £2,000 to deliver projects.

**Deadline: 5pm on Fri 26 Feb**

#### [Owned Voices Novel Award 2021](#)

This inaugural award aims to give its two winners the best possible chance of finding an agent or publisher for their work. Writers must be unagented and from an under-represented background

**Deadline: midnight on Sun 28 Feb**

#### [Scottish Mental Health Arts Festival 2021 writing competition](#)

Looking for entries of fiction, poetry and creative non-fiction which address mental health in all its diversity and explore the theme of 'Normality?'. Shortlisted writers will be invited to read from their work at the SMHAF Writing Awards in May, either in person or online, pending Covid restrictions.

**Deadline: midnight on Sun 28 Feb**

#### [Voices in the Dark](#)

The Common Breath is looking to publish four pamphlets by four writers of short fiction. 50 copies will be available of each pamphlet with the successful writers each paid £100 as part of the prize. Submissions of up to 5000 words can include one longer story or many short stories on any theme.

**Deadline: Sun 28 Feb**

#### [Avon x Mushens Entertainment Prize](#)

Avon has joined forces with agent Silé Edwards at Mushens Entertainment for a competition to find a new commercial writer of colour, with the winner handed £3,000, a two-book deal and representation, with a seminar to demystify the industry for the longlist.

**Deadline: Sun 28 Feb 2021**

### **UPCOMING**

#### [St Columba 1500 - Gaelic Writing Competition](#)

The Gaelic Books Council is running a writing competition, inviting writers of all ages and Gaelic abilities, to submit writing in Scottish Gaelic and in any format based on the life and legacy of St Columba. Adults prizes: two £250 cash prizes; children's prize: £50 book voucher for themselves and a £200 book voucher for their schools!

**Deadline: 5pm on Mon 1 Mar**

#### [The Lucy Cavendish College Fiction Prize 2021](#)

Open to entries from undiscovered female writers living in the UK and working on a full-length fiction project.

**Deadline: noon on Fri 12 Mar**

### **[Sky Arts RSL Writers Awards](#)**

Applications sought for these new awards that celebrate and nurture British writers of colour at the start of their careers. Five Awards are available, providing each winner with ten free mentoring sessions over the course of 12 months with an RSL Fellow writing in their form, as well as two sessions with Awards Ambassador Bernardine Evaristo.

**Deadline: Fri 30 Apr**

### **[Diverse Book Awards 2021](#)**

Looking for the best Children's, Young Adult and Adult Fiction book published in 2020 and written by a UK author. Self-published authors welcome.

**Deadline: Mon 31 May**

**\*\* ONLINE EVENTS \*\***

## **[Time to Talk: Sharing Stories and Supporting Mental Health](#)**

*Thu 4 Feb, 5-6pm, online, free*

Cheryle Brown, writer and mental health awareness advocate, discusses the psychological benefits of sharing and standing in our truth. Hosted by National Library of Scotland.

### **[Elisabeth Gifford: How to Find a Story in History](#)**

*Thu 4 Feb, 7-8pm, Zoom, £4-8*

Elisabeth will talk about finding story structure in past true events, and in doing so, how to stay true to history. Within this she will explore, how many liberties can a historical novelist take or not take. Elisabeth will also discuss evoking place and setting. Part of the 2020 Highland Book Prize Longlist series.

### **[Creative Conversations: Jessica Lee](#)**

*Mon 8 Feb, 1-2pm, Zoom, free*

Writer and environmental historical Jessica Lee reading and in conversation. Creative Conversations is programmed by the University of Glasgow Creative Writing Programme and funded by the Ferguson Bequest.

### **[TA @ HOME](#)**

*Mon 8- Fri 12 Feb, online, free*

Join Society of Authors for a special week-long celebration of literary translation and their [#TranslationPrizes20](#) in collaboration with the Translators Association.

### **[Weather and Climate: the challenges](#)**

*Tue 9 Feb, 5-6pm, Zoom, free*

Meteorologist Scott Duncan joins National Library of Scotland to consider weather in the time of climate change.

## **[George Thomson's Songs of Burns](#)**

*Tue 9 Feb, 5.30-7pm, online, free*

Professor Kirsteen McCue presents this paper on the role Thomson undertook in editing many of Burns's songs for the first time.

### [Wigtown Wednesday with Gavin Francis](#)

*Wed 10 Feb, 7pm, Zoom, free*

Join doctor and best-selling author Gavin Francis discussing his latest book, *Intensive Care*, a deeply personal account of caring for a community in crisis.

## [The Shepherd and the Shirra: James Hogg and Walter Scott at 250](#)

*Thu 11 Feb, 5-6pm, Zoom, free*

Award-winning writer James Robertson and cultural critic Valentina Bold reflect upon Scottish writers James Hogg and Walter Scott. Hosted by National Library of Scotland.

### [Geopoetics in Scotland](#)

*Thu 11 Feb, 5-6.30pm, Zoom, free*

An online conversation between Norman Bissell and Gordon Peters about the development of geopoetics in Scotland: past, present and future. Hosted by Scottish Centre for Geopoetics

## [Native: Life in a Vanishing Landscape by Patrick Laurie](#)

*Thu 16 Feb, 5-6pm, Zoom, free*

A Trip to the Galloway Countryside: Nature, Farming and Conservation with Patrick Laurie. Hosted by National Library of Scotland.

### [Jim Crumley in conversation with Linda Cracknell](#)

*Thu 18 Feb, 11am-12pm, online, pay as you can £0-8*

The 2020 Highland Book Prize Longlist series: Scottish nature writer Jim Crumley, talks to fiction/non-fiction author Linda Cracknell about his book *The Nature of Summer*, the final book in a quartet based around the seasons.

### [Scottish Black Writers' Group - with Nandi Jola](#)

*Thu 18 Feb, 7-9pm, online, free*

This is a new, free writers group, peer support and social space facilitated by Scottish BAME Writers Network's (SBWN) Co-Director Dean Atta and in association with Scottish PEN. Meetups take place on the third Thursday each month. This is a monthly event open to writers across the UK and Ireland who are Black/from the African diaspora, including people of mixed heritage. Please be mindful while booking!

### [Creative Conversations: Scarlett Thomas](#)

*Mon 22 Feb, 1-2pm, Zoom, free*

Writer and Professor Scarlet Thomas reading *Oligarchy* and in conversation. Creative Conversations is programmed by the University of Glasgow Creative Writing Programme and funded by the Ferguson Bequest.

### [Wigtown Wednesday with Katherine May](#)

*Wed 24 Feb, 7pm, Zoom, free*

How do you survive the winterings of your life? Katherine May talks to us about her recent book, *Wintering*, and the power of rest and retreat in difficult times.

### [Online live reading with poet Robin Robertson](#)

*Thu 25 Feb, 7-8pm, online, pay as you can £0-8*

The 2020 Highland Book Prize Longlist series: Robin Robertson reads from his latest collection, 'Grimoire: New Scottish Folk Tales'

**\*\*BOOK FESTIVALS 2021\*\*** ([see Find a Book Festival for the full list](#))

18-27 Feb: [Paisley Book Fest](#) online

19-21 Feb: [Granite Noir](#) online

25 Feb: [A Gray Day](#)

3-6 Mar: Big Bang Weekend, Dumfries & Galloway

6-7 Mar: [Write By The Sea, Argyll](#)

6-14 Mar: [Stanza, Scotland's International Poetry Festival](#)

10-14 Mar: [Hooked](#)

22-28 Mar: [Big Dog Children's Festival](#)