

word ON the STREET

**BACK ON THE STREET WITH
BRILLIANT THINGS**

MAY 18TH TO 20TH 2023

**IN VENUES AROUND DINGWALL
AND ON THE HIGH STREET**

**THEATRE / COMEDY / MUSIC
STORIES / READINGS / MEET AUTHORS
FAMILY SHOWS / GUIDED WALKS....AND SO MUCH MORE**

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**Bòrd na
Gàidhlig**

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Welcome Back!

Dingwall's favourite festival is back with new May dates. Events take place in the Ross-shire Club, Highflight Bookshop, on the street, and Saturday showcases a day of exhibitions, books, crafting, drama, music, Gaelic and typewriters—all in Dingwall Town Hall. Most events are free or 'Pay What You Want'. We hope to see you there! Word on the Street is supported by The Highland Council Dingwall & Seaforth Ward Discretionary Fund. The event is organised under the banner of Dingwall Players by: Nick Fearne, Bill Anderson, Phil Baarda, Sherry Morris, Donna Macrae, Simon Berry.

THURSDAY, 18th MAY

Yarn Bombing with Sharon Marshall — Dingwall High Street

Yarn bombing or 'guerrilla knitting' is an art movement using colourful yarn to adorn different objects and structures in an impromptu way. This street art uses knitting and crocheting to "tag" public objects and make artistic statements by changing the way everyday items appear.

Marcas Mac an Tuairneir — Songs on the High Street, 11am

Join Gaelic singer and poet Marcas Mac an Tuairneir on a walk through Dingwall High Street with a selection of traditional and contemporary Gaelic songs, celebrating the Gaelic heritage of the Highlands. Marcas' repertoire includes songs performed at Royal National Mòds, where he was a finalist in gold medal competitions in 2014, 2019 and 2021.

Òrain na h-Àrd-shràid

Thigibh an cuideachd Mharcais Mhic an Tuairneir is a' gabhail sgrìobh mu Àrd-shràid Inbhir Pheofharain agus roghainn de dh'òrain thraidiseanta is ùr-nòsach, sa Gàidhlig. Bidh òrain Mharcais a' toirt a-steach na ghabh e is e an sàs ann an cuairt dheireannach farpaisean nam bonn-òir aig a' Mhòd Nàiseanta Rìoghail, ann an 2014, 2019 is 2021.

Philip Paris, *The Last Witch of Scotland* (talk)—Studio Theatre, Upstairs, Ross-shire Club, 1–2pm

Philip has spent years researching the Scottish witchcraft trials for his latest historical fiction, *The Last Witch of Scotland*, which was inspired by the true story of Janet Horne, the last person in Britain to be executed for witchcraft (Dornoch, 1727). Per head of population, you were five times more likely to be accused of this crime in Scotland than the rest of Europe. Why? And why did women make up 85% of those accused? How did ordinary people find themselves facing a death sentence?

Marcas Mac an Tuairneir, Naming the Gaelic Landscape

(creative writing workshop)

Studio Theatre, Upstairs Ross-shire Club, 2.30-4pm

Award-winning poet Marcas Mac an Tuairneir returns to the Highlands, with a revamped version of his successful Moniac Mhòr workshop. Participants will be guided through Highland placenames, using these and examples of Gaelic poetry as creative impetus for their own writing. Writers of poetry, prose, drama, song or any genre are welcome to participate in the free-writing exercises, with the session providing cultural and contextual focus. All are welcome. Workshop is suitable for all levels of Gaelic.

Ainmeachadh Cruth-tìre na Gàidhlig

Às dèidh dha duaisean a chosnadh le a chuid bàrdachd, tillidh Marcas dhan a' Ghàidhealtachd gus bùth-obrach a lìbhrigeadh, a bh' aige roimhe aig Monadh Itheig Mhòir. Thèid sgrìobhadairean tro ainmean-àite na Gàidhealtachd, a' cleachdadh seo agus eisimpleirean bàrdachd na Gàidhlig gus an cuid sgrìobhaidh a bhrosnachadh. Co-dhiù a bheil sgrìobhadairean an sàs ann am bàrdachd, rosg, drama no òrain, tha fàilte romhpa uile a bhith an sàs sna eacarsaich-sgrìobhaidh a mhaireas seachd mionaidean a-mhàin, fhad 's a bheir na seiseanan fòcas air cultar is co-theacsaichean.

Bill Anderson, 10 Brilliant Books – 10,000 Thousand Books and Counting (talk)

Highflight Bookshop, 5-6pm

10 brilliant things about a bookshop, a conducted tour of the shelves and table-tops, highlighting brilliant books and some surprises. Bill Anderson opened his second-hand bookshop, Highflight Bookshop, at Castlebank House in 2011 (and wishes he had been made redundant sooner!). It was here he had the idea for Word on the Street. Bill started with his own personal collection of a couple thousand books. Now, at last count, he has over 10,000 books. He told himself, 'Bill, you're gonna need a bigger shop!', and moved to his present location on Dingwall High Street.

Comedy Night with The Comedy Bothy — Ross-shire Club, 7.30pm Pay What You want 18+

The Comedy Bothy was established in 2014 as a regular show for Highland based comedians to perform their material alongside other performers from around Scotland. Hosted by Matt Black, tonight's line-up features Mike Hendry, Lorn Dog, Hazel Urquhart and Kieran Lochore.

FRIDAY, 19th MAY

Get Experimental at the Newton Room — Lower Town Hall, 10.00am – 2.00pm
Drop-in to the Newton Room and explore a range of hands-on activities suitable for all ages. Learn how to code your own robot, explore renewable challenges or plant a wildflower pot to take home.

The Dingwall Newton Room aims to engage every P6-S2 pupils in the area in STEM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) through hands-on activities. The Newton Room concept originated in Norway, with the aim of providing pupils in rural and remote areas access to a science centre or museum. Newton Rooms have state-of-the-art facilities including a lab, flexible classrooms, specialised science kits and resources. The focus is on jobs in the Highlands, including Renewable Energy, Life Sciences, Space and Aquaculture.

Dingwall Players — *Every Brilliant Thing* by Duncan Macmillan with Jonny Donahoe

Dingwall Town Hall, 7.30pm Tickets £5 at www.dingwallplayers.org
You're seven. Mum's in hospital. Dad says she's 'done something stupid'. She finds it hard to be happy. You start a list of everything that's brilliant about the world. Everything worth living for. You leave it on her pillow. You know she's read it because she's corrected your spelling.

In *Every Brilliant Thing*, a young girl attempts to ease her mother's depression by creating a list of all the best things in the world. Everything worth living for. Through adulthood, as the list grows, she learns the deep significance it has on her own life. *Every Brilliant Thing* is a hilarious and heart-wrenching play about depression and the lengths we will go for those we love.

Mystery Film — Highlight Bookshop, 9pm

A comedy. With subtitles. Made in 2012 and set in 1958. That's all we can print. (That's a clue.)

SATURDAY, 20th MAY

Get Experimental at the Newton Room — Lower Town Hall, 10.00am – 2.00pm
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Dingwall Town Hall programme

10am – 1pm

The Right Type? Typewriter Exhibition First patented in 1868, typewriters are brilliant inventions. We've collected a few: manual and electric, old and new. Come along and browse these wondrous machines. See if you can make them work, turn your words directly into type. Do you still use one? Have one in the loft, attic, garage or under the sink? Dust it off and bring it to the Town Hall between 9 & 10am. Tell us its story. Whose is it? When was it last used? Did you write a novel with it?

Crafting with Sharon Marshall

Join Sharon for taster sessions and mini-workshops in needle felting, crochet and mini-weaving to create landscapes and seascapes, inspired by the beautiful (& brilliant) Highland surroundings

Heartstone Photographic Exhibition

Heartstone, based in Dingwall, produces story - literature, photo-documentary, history - presented through exhibitions, events, performances, installations and online. The stories bring people together to see a common human experience.

www.heartstonechandra.com

Browse a Brilliant Book

Bill Anderson, proprietor of Highflight Book shop on Dingwall High Street, presents a carefully curated collection of brilliant books from different genres – read, listen, discuss – some might even be about flight!

3.30-4pm Heartstone Dance - Cùra Guardian Roadshow www.curaguardian.scot

Sitakumari, dancer/storyteller presents three stories in dance-drama that feature her Indian Classical Dance background. The stories relate to images on the website and in the exhibition & are ancient stories about a comet and eclipse, a butterfly with messages in its DNA, and a legend about raptors.

5-6pm Music & Poetry with Marcas Mac an Tuairneir

Join award-winning poet and singer-songwriter Marcas Mac an Tuairneir for an afternoon of song, poetry and conversation. Marcas will perform Gaelic songs, both traditional and from his own contemporary oeuvre, often co-written with some of Gaeldom's finest musicians. Marcas will also share poetic works, touching on musical themes, taken from his critically-acclaimed fourth collection, *Polaris*, short-listed for Scottish Book of the Year, by the Saltire Society.

Ceol agus Bàrdachd le Marcas Mac an Tuairneir

Thigibh an cuideachd a' bhàird is òranaiche, Marcas Mac an Tuairneir, airson cuirm-feasgair de dh'òrain, bàrdachd is còmhradh. Tha Marcas air duaisean a chosnadh airson a chuid òran is bàrdachd, a tha an dà chuid traidiseanta is ùr-nòsach, a ghabhas e *a capella*, air an oidhche. Tha Marcas air òrain a sgrìobhadh cuideachd le feadhainn de na ceòladairean as cliùitiche air saoghal na Gàidhlig, agus bidh e a' leughadh cuicheachd bhon cho-chruinneachadh as ùire aige, *Polaris*, le bàrdachd a shuathas ri cuspairean ceòlmhor. Chaidh *Polaris* a chur air geàrr-liosta leis Comann Chrann na h-Alba airson duais Leabhar Bàrdachd na Bliadhna, an-uiridh.

Dingwall Players — *Every Brilliant Thing* by Duncan Macmillan with Jonny Donahoe
Dingwall Town Hall, 7.30pm Tickets £5 at www.dingwallplayers.org

You're seven years old. Mum's in hospital. Dad say she's 'done something stupid'. She finds it hard to be happy. You start a list of everything that's brilliant about the world. Everything worth living for. You leave it on her pillow. You know she's read it because she's corrected your spelling.

(See Friday for further info.)

Storytelling at Dingwall Primary School- school pupils only

Storytelling, readings, drama and drumming presented by Word on the Street regulars, Barbara Henderson and Dougie Mackay.

Barbara Henderson: Author of nine books and the current writer-in-residence at the Forth Bridge, Barbara has twice won the Historical Association's Young Quills Award for her historical Middle Grade adventures and is a founding member of the Time Tunnellers. Her latest book is *Rivet Boy*, a Victorian adventure based on real events and people during the construction of the Forth Bridge.

Dougie Mackay: a Highland storyteller living near Edinburgh who shares folk tales and myths from near and far, bringing a sense of magic, wonder and intrigue, along with a bit of drumming. Dougie has performed at major storytelling festivals around UK and Europe. storyconnection.org

Gaelic Artist in Residence - Marcas Mac an Tuairneir (Mark Spencer Turner)

This year, with the support of Bòrd na Gàidhlig, Word on the Street welcomes its first Gaelic Artist in Residence, award-winning poet and singer-songwriter Marcas Mac an Tuairneir (Mark Spencer Turner). Marcas is a long-standing member of the Gaelic community, writing poetry, songs and music that seeks to engage with the Gaelic tradition, as well as articulating contemporary, urban Gaelic-speaking experience. Most recently, Marcas' fourth poetry collection, *Polaris*, was short-listed for Scottish Book of the Year, by the Saltire Society.

Neach-ealain na Gàidhlig air Mhuinntireas – Marcas Mac an Tuairneir

Am bliadhna, le taic Bhòrd na Gàidhlig, bidh Word on the Street a' cur fàilte ris a' chiad Neach-ealain na Gàidhlig air Mhuinntireas, Marcas Mac an Tuairneir. Tha Marcas na bhàrd is an òranaiche is tha a chuid obrach air iomadh duais a chosnadh. Le deagh sheasamh ann an coimhearsnachd na Gàidhlig, bidh e a' sgrìobhadh bàrdachd, òran is ciùil ceangailte ri traidisean nan Gàidhlig, cho mòr is a chuireas sin beatha Ghàidhealach sa bhaile mhòr is cùisean ùr-nodha an cèill. O chionn ghoirid, chaidh an ceathramh co-chruinneachadh aig Marcas, *Polaris*, a chur air geàrr-liosta Leabhar Bàrdachd na Bliadhna aig Comann Chrann na h-Alba.

Dingwall Academy Acadamaidh Inbhir Pheofharain (school pupils only)

Friday 19th May – GaelPop Workshop

Award-winning Gaelic poet and singer-songwriter, Mark Spencer Turner will lead a workshop with young people from Dingwall Academy, using songs from his critically-acclaimed album *Speactram* as creative impetus. Working to a theme, chosen by students, Marcas will guide them through contemporary pop song structures, finding ways to express young people's lived experience through the medium of GaelPop.

Dihaoine 19mh a' Chèitein – Bùth-obrach GhaelPop

Tha Marcas Mac an Tuairneir na bhàrd is òranaiche a tha air iomadh duais a chosnadh, thar nam bliadhnaichean. A' stiùireadh bùth-obrach do dh'òigridh aig Acadamaidh Inbhir Pheofharain, bidh na h-oileanaich a' cleachdadh òrain chlàr Mharcais, *Speactram*, gus faighinn a-mach mu structaran òran pop, a' lorg dòighean beatha-èolas nan òg a chur an cèill tro GhaelPop.

Daily Dingwalks with Jonathan McCol

Jonathan is a Trustee of Dingwall Museum and a member of the Dingwall History Society and Highland Family History Society. He writes and talks about the people and places of the Dingwall area in formal lectures or in guided walks around the burgh. Join him on a fascinating walk! Walks are on the flat, not strenuous, and take about an hour.

Thursday, 18th May:

13:00 – DingWalk 4: The Heritage Trail – Meet at Highland Youth (old Post Office)

14:30 – DingWalk 1: The Millennium Walk – Meet at Renato's

Friday, 19th May:

13:00 – DingWalk 4: The Heritage Trail – Meet at Highland Youth (old Post Office)

14:30 – DingWalk 2: The Road to the Castle – Meet at Castlebank House

Saturday, 20th May:

10:00 – DingWalk 4: The Heritage Trail – Meet at Highland Youth (old Post Office)

11:30 – DingWalk 3: The Talking Stones of Dingwall – Meet at the Museum

