

20TH - 22ND
SEPTEMBER 2024
BRAEMAR, SCOTLAND
PRESENTED BY THE FIFE ARMS

BRAEMAR
LITERARY
FESTIVAL



The background features a gradient of green and olive tones. There are several large, overlapping, wavy shapes in a darker olive green color, creating a layered, mountain-like effect. The text 'INTRODUCTION' is centered in the middle of the image.

INTRODUCTION

BRAEMAR LITERARY FESTIVAL

20TH – 22ND SEPTEMBER – 2024

We are delighted to welcome you to the 2024 Braemar Literary Festival presented by the Fife Arms, once more being held in collaboration with The Queen's Reading Room, a hub for literary communities around the world and a celebration of literature in all its forms.

The Braemar Literary Festival aims to explore the creative use of words and text in their broadest sense; celebrating the works of best selling authors alongside visual artists, spoken word performers, scriptwriters, critics and publishers alike, reflecting the many ways in which the 'literary' creatively enhances our lives.



THE QUEEN'S READING ROOM

The Queen's Reading Room is a charity and literary hub on a mission to help readers and non-readers alike find and connect with books they will love. Through exclusive author interviews and behind-the-scenes content, a chart-topping podcast and its' annual literary festival, The Queen's Reading Room seeks to advance education by providing opportunities for the appreciation of literature among adults and children, introducing and celebrating books from around the world and the extraordinary people who create them. Its purpose is to help more people find and connect with books – chosen for their educative, literary or historic merit - which enrich their lives and turn them into lifelong readers.

The charity is also committed to better understanding the benefits of reading and recently published its first neuroscientific study into the link between reading fiction and wellness, which proved that just 5 minutes of reading can reduce stress levels by almost 20%, improve concentration and focus by as much as 11%, and enable readers to feel better connected to each other.

The former Duchess of Cornwall launched 'The Reading Room' on Instagram in January 2021 with Charlie Mackesy and his wonderfully illustrated 'The Boy, The Mole, The Fox and The Horse'. Since then, there have been fourteen complete seasons with four widely different but equally compelling books featuring in each. The project was relaunched as the charity 'The Queen's Reading Room' in February 2023 by Her Majesty The Queen.





VENUE MAP



Braemar Castle



Braemar Gallery



Braemar Village Hall



The Fife Arms



Braemar Mews



Farquharson's



St. Margaret's



Castleton Hall



Highland Games Pavilion

PROGRAMME

FULL DETAILS CAN BE FOUND AT [THEFIFEARMS.COM](https://www.thefifearms.com)
OR BY SCANNING THE QR CODE



SATURDAY 21TH SEPTEMBER

10am–10:45am	TOM PARKER BOWLES in conversation with MATTHEW FORT	St Margaret's
11:30am–12:15pm	KATE MOSSE on 30 Years of the Women's Prize for Fiction	Braemar Village Hall
12:45pm–1:30pm	JESSIE BURTON in conversation with VICKI PERRIN	St Margaret's
2pm–2:45pm	FRANCES MORRIS and FIONA BRADLEY: The Life and Work of Phyllida Barlow presented by Ursula Magazine	Braemar Village Hall
3:30pm–4:15pm	JON SOPEL in conversation with SALLY MAGNUSSON	St Margaret's
5pm–5:45pm	KEN FOLLETT in conversation with VICKI PERRIN	St Margaret's
6:30pm–7:30pm	LYR	Braemar Village Hall

SUNDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER

10am–10:45am	ALAN CUMMING in conversation with FIONA KENNEDY	St Margaret's
11:30am–12:15pm	SIMON ARMITAGE in conversation with NICK BARLEY	Braemar Village Hall
1:15pm–2pm	JINNY BLOM in conversation with ANGELA PALMER	Braemar Village Hall
2:30pm–3:30pm	Discover Award-Winning JINNY BLOM's Garden at the Fife Arms	The Fife Arms Garden

THROUGHOUT THE FESTIVAL

Festival Authors and Literary Retail display in Fife Arms shop	Fife Arms Shop
Hauser & Wirth Publishing Pop-up	Fife Arms Shop
Enjoy a specially curated cocktail menu with Johnnie Walker Blue label available at Elsa's Bar which is open from noon daily throughout the festival.	Elsa's Bar

The background features a gradient of green and olive tones. There are several large, overlapping, wavy shapes that create a sense of depth and movement, resembling stylized hills or waves. The colors transition from a lighter, muted green at the top to a darker, more saturated olive green at the bottom.

PROGRAMME DETAILS

TOM PARKER BOWLES in conversation with MATTHEW FORT

SATURDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER, 10am – 10:45am

ST MARGARET'S

Enter the fascinating world of Royal recipes in the company of celebrated British food writer and critic, Tom Parker Bowles as we explore his latest book **Cooking & the Crown: Royal Recipes from Queen Victoria to King Charles III**, detailing the lives, reigns and eating habits of our country's monarchs.

Tom will be joined by food columnist, author and former judge on the Great British Menu series, Matthew Fort, in what promises to be an educational and entertaining glimpse into food and the British Monarchy.

A book signing will follow the event.





KATE MOSSE on 30 Years of the Women's Prize for Fiction

SATURDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER, 11:30am - 12:15pm

BRAEMAR VILLAGE HALL

From the very first secret meeting in 1991 to talk about the idea of a prize honouring, celebrating and promoting writing by women to the launch of its sister prize in 2024, the Women's Prize for Fiction and the new Women's Prize for Non-Fiction have led the way in championing global women's voices.

Join Founder Director Kate Mosse to hear about plans for the 30th anniversary of the WPF ... plus a sneak preview of her new novel **The Map of Bones** and her plans for her new one-woman theatre show, **Labyrinth Live: Unlocking the Secrets of the Labyrinth**. Kate will be introduced by Claire Shanahan, Executive Director of the Women's Prize Trust.

A book signing will follow the event.



JESSIE BURTON in conversation
with VICKI PERRIN, CEO OF THE QUEEN'S
READING ROOM

SATURDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER, 12:45pm – 1:30pm

ST MARGARET'S

Jessie Burton is the multimillion best selling author of **The Miniaturist**, **The Muse**, **The Confession** and **The House of Fortune**, all instant Sunday Times best sellers. Shortlisted for the Carnegie medal for writing, Jessie's novels have been published in 40 languages.

Jessie will be joined in conversation with Vicki Perrin, to explore her extraordinary literary career and the central female characters that inhabit the highly detailed worlds of her novels.

A book signing will follow the event.





FRANCES MORRIS and FIONA BRADLEY:
The Life and Work of Phyllida Barlow
presented by Ursula Magazine

SATURDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER, 2pm – 2:45pm

BRAEMAR VILLAGE HALL

For almost 60 years, British artist Phyllida Barlow took inspiration from her surroundings to create large-scale yet anti-monumental sculptures from inexpensive, low-grade materials such as cardboard, fabric, plywood and cement. To mark the occasion of the major exhibition *Phyllida Barlow. unscripted* at Hauser & Wirth Somerset and the release of the forthcoming title *Phyllida Barlow: Sculpture, 1963–2023*, two internationally renowned curators — Frances Morris, curator of 'unscripted', author of *Sculpture, 1963–2023* and former Director of Tate Modern, and Fiona Bradley, Director of The Fruitmarket Gallery, Edinburgh — join forces to explore Barlow's ground-breaking and influential work.

The exhibition *Phyllida Barlow. unscripted* runs until 5 January 2025 at Hauser & Wirth Somerset and *Phyllida Barlow: Sculpture, 1963–2023* will be available from Hauser & Wirth Publishers on 7 October. Pre-order your [copy here](#) and take 20% off when you use code BRAEMARLITFEST



JON SOPEL in conversation with SALLY MAGNUSSON

SATURDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER, 3:30pm – 4:15pm

ST MARGARET'S

Renowned British journalist, bestselling author, political insider and presenter of the chart-topping podcast **The News Agents**, Jon Sopel joins us in Braemar to discuss his new book **Strangeland**, which chronicles his experience of returning to the UK after eight years of political reporting in the US, and the changed homeland he encountered.

Don't miss what promises to be a highly-informed, witty and engaging analysis of today's Britain from one of the world's most respected political journalists.

Jon will be in conversation with highly respected broadcast journalist, television presenter and writer Sally Magnusson.

A book signing will follow the event.





KEN FOLLETT in conversation with VICKI PERRIN, CEO OF THE QUEEN'S READING ROOM

SATURDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER, 5pm – 5:45pm

ST MARGARET'S

Ken Follett is one of the world's most successful authors. More than 195 million copies of the 37 books he has written have been sold in over 80 countries and in 40 languages. In 1989, Ken's epic novel about the building of a medieval cathedral, **The Pillars of the Earth**, reached number one on bestseller lists everywhere.

Ken will be joined by Vicki Perrin of The Queen's Reading Room to discuss his astonishing literary career, spanning spy stories (**Eye of the Needle**), to political thrillers (**Never**), and his historical fiction works, including his latest book **The Armour of Light**.

A book signing will follow the event.



LYR

SATURDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER, 6:30pm – 7.30pm

BRAEMAR VILLAGE HALL

British genre-splicing supergroup LYR take to the stage to perform an emotive and atmospheric set, featuring a powerful combination of the written and spoken word entwined with soaring original compositions.

With a talented and highly respected line-up comprising author and Poet Laureate Simon Armitage, singer-songwriter Richard Walters and multi-instrumentalist Patrick Pearson, LYR have carved out a unique place within the contemporary British music scene with two critically acclaimed albums **Call in the Crash Team** and **The Ultraviolet Age** to date.





ALAN CUMMING in conversation with FIONA KENNEDY

SUNDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER, 10am-10:45am

ST MARGARET'S

Alan Cumming has enjoyed a hugely successful career on international stage and screen, most recently playing Scotland's national poet Robert Burns in **BURN**, a solo dance theatre piece for the National Theatre of Scotland, as well as hosting the phenomenally successful TV series, **The Traitors**. Cumming has written several autobiographical works, a novel, and two children's books.

Alan will be joined by actress, broadcaster and singer Fiona Kennedy to discuss the many and wide-ranging ways in which words and literature have shaped his life and career.

A book signing will follow the event.



SIMON ARMITAGE in conversation with NICK BARLEY

SUNDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER, 11.30am-12.15pm

BRAEMAR VILLAGE HALL

Join award-winning writer and song lyricist Simon Armitage as he marks the mid-point of his Poet Laureateship in conversation with Nick Barley, Director of the emerging National Poetry Centre in Leeds.

Simon will discuss his wide-ranging literary career and some key projects as Laureate. This unique occasion includes the opportunity for the audience to ask questions and hear Simon read from his latest poetry collection **Blossomise**, a collaboration with the National Trust, and **Never Good With Horses**, his recent publication of lyrics.

A book signing will follow the event.





JINNY BLOM in conversation with ANGELA PALMER

SUNDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER, 1.15pm – 2.30pm

BRAEMAR VILLAGE HALL

Award-winning landscape architect and designer of the Fife Arms' garden, Jinny Blom, discusses her new book **What Makes a Garden** which focuses both on the creative act of designing landscapes and the impacts of time and culture on making a garden.

Jinny will be in conversation with artist, and former journalist, Angela Palmer whose sculptural works investigate deep time and geology, and involve collaborations with multi-disciplinary scientists worldwide.

Join us for an insight into the world of garden design and discussion of some Jinny's globally recognised projects.

A book signing will follow the event.



Discover Award-Winning JINNY BLOM's Garden at the Fife Arms

SUNDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER, 2.30pm - 3.30pm

THE FIFE ARMS GARDEN

(Please enter via the gate to the right of the main hotel entrance)

Join award-winning garden designer, Jinny Blom in the stunning garden created especially for the Fife Arms. Showcasing Jinny's characteristic use of colour, form and space, and built up on a deep knowledge of the site and its, often extreme, environmental conditions, the Fife Arms garden offers guests a rich and layered visual experience in every season.



The background features a stylized landscape with rolling hills in various shades of green. The sky is a light, pale green gradient. The text is centered in the middle of the image.

SPEAKERS AND CHAIRS

SIMON ARMITAGE

Simon Armitage is the recipient of numerous awards, including the Queen's Gold Medal for Poetry and an Ivor Novello. He has published over a dozen poetry collections including his latest **Blossomise**, an instant Sunday Times bestseller. Armitage also writes, records and performs with the band LYR. **Never Good with Horses** features his song lyrics for the first time. He is also the author of three non-fiction bestsellers: **All Points North**, **Walking Home** and **Walking Away**. A regular broadcaster, Armitage presents the popular BBC Radio 4 series **The Poet Laureate has Gone to his Shed**. He is Professor of Poetry at the University of Leeds and was elected Oxford Professor of Poetry (2015-2019). Armitage received a CBE in 2010 and was appointed Poet Laureate in 2019.



NICK BARLEY

Nick Barley is Director of the National Poetry Centre, the new Leeds-based organisation which will be the UK headquarters for poetry and the spoken word. He is also a Professor in Practice at Durham University. Nick was previously Director of the Edinburgh International Book Festival and a trustee of the Booker Prize Foundation.





JINNY BLOM

Jinny Blom is a leading garden designer and landscape architect who, since establishing her London-based landscape design practice in 2000, has created hundreds of much-lauded gardens all over the world. She has designed four award-winning gardens for the RHS Chelsea Flower Show, including her 'Healing Garden' developed in collaboration with King Charles III, has been a columnist for The Times and in 2002 won BBC Radio Broadcaster of the Year for her Radio 4 Woman's Hour features. Jinny has been nominated Woman of the Year an unprecedented three times for her services to society including her role as Artist in Residence at Chelsea & Westminster Hospital.



TOM PARKER BOWLES

A British food writer and critic, Tom Parker Bowles won the Guild of Food Writers 2010 award for his writings on British food. He is well known for his appearances as a judge and critic in numerous television food series including MasterChef and for his reviews of restaurant meals around the UK and overseas for GQ, Esquire and The Mail on Sunday. Tom is also a successful author of 8 books.

FIONA BRADLEY

Fiona Bradley has been Director of Fruitmarket in Edinburgh since 2003, running it as an organisation that centres artists and empowers audiences. She has made exhibitions with artists including Karla Black, Lee Lozano, Tacita Dean, Eva Hesse and Martin Creed. In 2015, she worked with Phyllida Barlow on a major exhibition, set, and commissioned Frances Morris to write the accompanying book, that has now been extended as the definitive publication on the work of Phyllida Barlow.



JESSIE BURTON

Jessie Burton is the multi-million bestselling author of **The Miniaturist**, **The Muse**, **The Confession** and **The House of Fortune** – all instant Sunday Times bestsellers. **The Miniaturist** and **The Muse** were Sunday Times no.1 bestsellers in hardback and paperback, and New York Times bestsellers. **The Miniaturist** was the fastest-selling debut of the 2010s, and was adapted as a BBC One miniseries. Jessie's books for children include **Medusa**, which was shortlisted for the Carnegie medal for writing. Her novels have been published in 40 languages.





ALAN CUMMING

Alan Cumming has enjoyed a hugely successful career on international stage and screen, most recently playing poet Robert Burns in **BURN**, a solo dance theatre piece for the National Theatre of Scotland, as well as hosting the phenomenally successful TV series, **The Traitors**. Cumming has written several autobiographical works, a novel, and two children's books, and will discuss the many and wide-ranging ways in which words and literature have shaped his life and career.



MATTHEW FORT

Matthew Fort has been food columnist in the Financial Times, Food Editor of The Guardian and former judge on the Great British Menu. He has written five books about food, three of them based on voyages he made on a Vespa around Italy. He has won multiple Glenfiddich and other awards, including Premio Sicilia Madre Mediterranea.

KEN FOLLETT

Ken Follett is one of the world's most successful authors. More than 195 million copies of the 37 books he has written have been sold in over 80 countries and in 40 languages. In 1989, Ken's epic novel about the building of a medieval cathedral, **The Pillars of the Earth**, was published and reached number one on bestseller lists everywhere. His latest book, **The Armour of Light**, is set in his fictional town of Kingsbridge, and completes an eight-volume cycle of books which together chronicle the last 1,000 years of Western civilization.



FIONA KENNEDY

Fiona Kennedy is a singer, songwriter, and stage producer. In her varied career, she has sung for Her late Majesty The Queen, the G8 Summit launch, and for NATO ambassadors, presented BBC's **Record Breakers**, hosted **Tartan TV** for American channel PBS, and presented with the Royal Scottish National Orchestra. She has also performed at Celtic Connections and Transatlantic Sessions on BBC 2, toured with Runrig and acted in the West End. She is Patron of several international and local charities.

Fiona was awarded an OBE in 2014 for her services to music and charitable work.





SALLY MAGNUSSON

Sally Magnusson has forged a highly distinguished career as a broadcast journalist, television presenter and as a writer. Her written works include the Sunday Times bestseller **Where Memories Go** (2014), and her debut novel, **The Sealwoman's Gift** (2018), about the experience of a 17th century Icelandic woman abducted into slavery. Sally's fourth novel, set in Orkney and based on Norse mythology, is due out in 2025.



FRANCES MORRIS

Frances Morris, Director Tate Modern from 2016-2024, is curator of 'Phyllida Barlow. unscripted', a major retrospective of the late artist's work currently on show at Hauser & Wirth, Somerset and author of the forthcoming monograph on the artist. Frances has made many exhibitions and publications, including acclaimed retrospectives of Louise Bourgeois, Yayoi Kusama, and Agnes Martin, as well as Hilma Af Klint & Piet Mondrian: Forms of Life.

KATE MOSSE

Kate Mosse is the author of nine novels & short story collections, including the No 1 bestselling **The Joubert Family Chronicles** - **The Burning Chambers** and **The City of Tears**. A champion of women's creativity, Kate is the Founder Director of the Women's Prize for Fiction - the largest annual celebration of women's writing in the world - and sits on the Executive Committee of Women of the World. She is the Founder of the global campaign - #WomaninHistory - launched in January 2021 to honour, celebrate women's achievements throughout history. She was awarded an OBE in 2013 for services to literature and was named Woman of the Year for her service to the arts in the Everywoman Awards and is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts.



ANGELA PALMER

Angela Palmer is a Scottish sculptor with work in the permanent collections of international museums including the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum, Washington; the Science Museum, London; the National Galleries of Scotland, Edinburgh; and the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford. Mapping is at the core of her work, which investigate deep time and geology and invariably involve the collaboration of multi-disciplinary scientists worldwide.





VICKI PERRIN

CEO of The Queen's Reading Room, Vicki is a content producer, festival programmer and all-round bookworm. With a background in literary festivals, TV and Radio, including directing the BBC's 500 Words competition, Vicki is passionate about making great stories accessible to everyone.



JON SOPEL

A personal exploration of post-Brexit Britain and what it now means to be British, from the bestselling author, political insider, and presenter of the chart-topping podcast, **The News Agents**. With his characteristic wit and clarity, Jon unpicks the politics, policy, and people that have shaped and shaken Britain, **Strangeland** is Jon SopeL's remarkable portrait of his homeland in chaos.

CLAIRE SHANAHAN

Executive Director of the registered charity, Women's Prize Trust, their mission is to change the world through books by women and open up pathways into reading and writing for the storytellers and booklovers of tomorrow. Named a Bookseller Rising Star in 2013, Claire worked as an editor, before moving into the charity sector. She was Head of Arts at BookTrust where she oversaw a portfolio of reading and writing initiatives before moving into consultancy for literary & media clients. Claire is a passionate advocate of the transformative power of reading and writing, and the ongoing need to invest in and cheerlead women.



Five Arms
HOTEL

The
Queens
READING
ROOM 

WITH THANKS TO

JOHNNIE WALKER,
Blue Label
A BLEND OF SOME OF OUR RAREST WHISKIES


STMARGARET'S
BRAEMAR

BRAEMAR
VILLAGE
HALL

HAUSER
&
WIRTH



Fife Arms

HOTEL

WWW.THEFIFEARMS.COM