

'Where everybody has a tale,'



Big DOG

A Children's
Book Festival
FOR DUMFRIES

Fri 23 - Sun 25 March 2018

How to book tickets

Box office

Open 10am-4pm Monday to Saturday and 12noon-4pm Sunday. Tickets can be bought from the box office by calling **01988 403222**. You can also buy in person at **11 North Main Street, Wigtown, DG8 9HN**.

During the festival

Tickets can still be purchased on the door if an event is not sold out. Please contact the box office on **01988 403222** to check availability.

Online booking

24 hours a day, 7 days a week at **www.wigtownbookfestival.com**

Ticketing policy

Children must be accompanied by an adult. One accompanying adult attends free but must also have a ticket. Under-2s who do not need a seat are free. Ages in listings are for guidance only. Seats are allocated on a first-come-first-served basis at each event. Big DoG does not exchange or refund tickets. If an event proceeds but not as advertised, we will exchange your ticket(s) for another event. If an event is cancelled outright, we will offer a full refund. Events last one hour unless otherwise stated.

Photography

Official photographs may be taken throughout the festival and used in future publicity. No unofficial photography is permitted at events.

Day Tickets

Big DoG family tickets are available for £15 a day. A day ticket permits entry for up to five family members, including a maximum of two adults. To guarantee availability for specific events, day ticket holders must also book places for their chosen events.

FESTIVAL TEAM

Anne Barclay Programme
Kenny Barr Fundraising
Anne Brown PR & Media
Claire Nash Festival Bookshop
Adrian Turpin Artistic Consultant

Volunteers

Heartfelt thanks to our volunteers, too numerous to list individually. Without them, this festival would not happen.

2018 brochure

Design **Krista Robertson**
Illustration **Claudia Boldt**



BigDogBookFestival




BigDoG_Fest

Named after Nana, the big dog who looks after the children in *Peter Pan*, Big DoG is an exciting family festival for Dumfries. Take a lead from some of the nation's best children's writers who are hosting a long weekend of barking fun and ruff magic. It's the event where everybody has a tale.



Who Is Big DoG?

 Big Dog lives in Dogfries and loves reading. His favourite writers are JK Rowling, Virginia Woolf and the poet Robert Browning. Big Dog was lucky to have his portrait drawn by Claudia Boldt. Claudia dreams of being a planet-hunter but is waiting for space travel to become more comfortable. In the meantime, she has to make do with a career as an award-winning children's author and illustrator. It's the next best thing.

Friday 23 MARCH

5.30PM

The Wonderful World of Lapin Le Petit Monde

£4 | FAMILY

Tania has come from Paris for The World's Tastiest Carrot competition. In her leather trunk, she carries her very own garden filled with animal friends. They all want a taste of her prize carrot! Narrated in English with a smattering of French from the puppets, the show is a fun and heart-warming piece of theatre with a big surprise ending. Accessible to all non-French speakers.

*Theatre Royal,
66-68
Shakespeare St*
SUPPORTED BY
DG ARTS LIVE



Barking fact

Like dogs, pet rabbits can be taught to come when their names are called, sit and do tricks.

7PM

READING DEVELOPMENT & DISABILITY Dr Jeremy Law, University of Glasgow; School of Interdisciplinary Studies

£4 | ADULTS

Reading is a recent human invention which needs instruction over a period of several years. We are not born 'pre-wired' to read. However, as your eyes fall upon these words, meaning is extracted within the first 200 milliseconds making it nearly impossible not to read. But, for some children, in the absence

of any explanation, this task is nearly insurmountable due to the developmental condition dyslexia. Dr Law discusses how most children can master reading and why some, regardless of effort and ability, struggle. *Theatre Royal, 66-68 Shakespeare St*



Schools Programme

Big DoG will see some visiting authors bounding into local schools on Friday 23 and Monday 26 March.

ALL WEEKEND 10AM-4PM



Story Centre

Bring your imagination and drop in for word play, book-making, drawing and story-writing. You'll also find Wigtown Book Festival's Storyteller in Residence, **Renita Boyle**, telling tall tales and tongue-twisters, singing silly songs and lighting the imagination.

Theatre Royal, 66-68 Shakespeare St



Saturday 24 MARCH

10AM-4PM



Mossyard Farm Pottery

£4-£15 | ALL AGES

Paint your own ceramic

figurine with **Amy McConchie**. Lots of fun ceramic designs to choose from and take home.

*Theatre Royal,
66-68 Shakespeare St*



10AM

The Red Dread

Tom Morgan-Jones

FREE BUT TICKETED | AGES 3+

The Red Dread is on the loose and Shrew and the other animals are afraid. Tales of stolen nuts and missing rabbits are everywhere. As panic grows, logic and team spirit evaporate and soon it's every creature for itself.

*Theatre Royal,
66-68 Shakespeare St*



10AM

Fairy Tales Vivian French

FREE BUT TICKETED | AGES 7+

Renowned children's author Vivian French has written more than 200 books. Join her for tales of witches, trolls, and dragons and start a tale of your own.

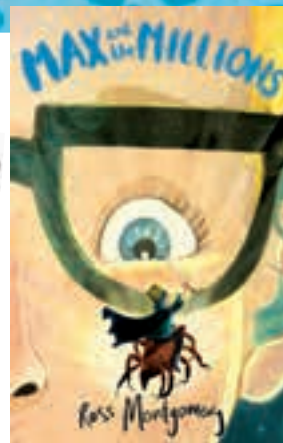
*Theatre Royal,
66-68 Shakespeare St*



MORE
INSIDE

Saturday

24 MARCH



2.30PM
Space Tortoise
Ross Montgomery
 £4 | AGES 3+

A lonely tortoise longs to reach the stars and find other animals to play with. Using things he finds in the bin, he makes a spacesuit and sets off to find the rocket at the other end of the park – but is it really a space ship?
Theatre Royal, 66-68 Shakespeare St

Paws for applause
 The first dogs to enter space and return alive were Belka and Strelka who blasted off in August 1960.



10.30AM-12NOON



Wee MacAsh and the Pirates
Amanda Sunderland

FREE | AGES 5-7

Join Amanda and meet the real Wee McAsh for an interactive story and craft session.

Ewart Library, Catherine St. Tel 01387 253820



Royal pedigree

Dachshunds, like Wee McAsh, were made popular in Britain by sausage dog-loving Queen Victoria.



11-11.30AM

Bookbug Session

FREE – DROP IN | AGES 0-4

Fun session including nursery rhymes, singing, actions and stories to enjoy with your child.

Georgetown Library, Gillbrae Rd. Tel 01387 256059



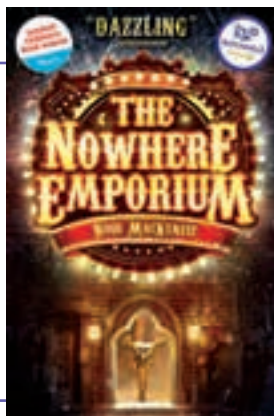
11.30AM

Max and the Millions
Ross Montgomery

£4 | AGES 8+

Max is lonely at his school – until he discovers a microscopic fantasy kingdom on his bedroom floor, filled with living people no bigger than ants! The world is inhabited by people riding fleas and soldiers wielding toothbrush bristles as swords. But how can Max stop them from fighting?

Theatre Royal, 66-68 Shakespeare St



1PM

The Nowhere Emporium

Ross MacKenzie

£4 | AGES 8+

Scottish Children's Book Award-winner Ross MacKenzie unleashes a riot of imagination in this gripping fantasy adventure. When the mysterious Nowhere Emporium arrives in Glasgow, orphan Daniel is drawn into its magical world.

Theatre Royal, 66-68 Shakespeare St

1PM

Nip Nebs Toon Trail

Susi Briggs & Ruthie Redden

FREE | FAMILY

An interactive story trail with Nip Nebs himself. Search for pixies an sprinkle icy draps on speeder webs! Nip Nebs is a new Scots language picture book for children. A melodic imagining of an ancient Scottish sprite also known as Jack Frost.

Meet Waterstones, 79-83 High St



4PM

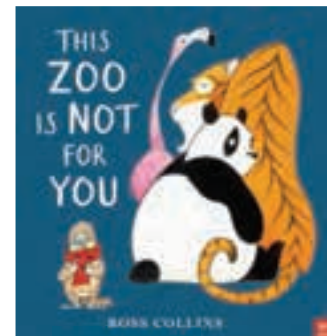
This Zoo Is Not for You

Ross Collins

£4 | AGES 5+

When platypus visits the zoo, the other animals treat him unkindly. Learn about accepting others for who they are, and how forgiveness and friendship win the day.

Theatre Royal, 66-68 Shakespeare St



11.30AM

One Button Benny

Alan Windram

£4 | AGES 3+

Benny is a special robot. A single red button sits in the middle of his stomach. Benny has never known what the words "Only Press in an Emergency" mean until one day he is forced to find out.

Theatre Royal, 66-68 Shakespeare St

SPONSORED BY THE PEOPLE'S PROJECT



1PM



Words and Pictures

Vivian French & Ross Collins

£4 | FAMILY

Join author and illustrator duo Vivian French and Ross Collins to learn about writing and illustrating children's books with two titans of the industry. Paper, pencils and clipboards provided – bring your imagination.

Theatre Royal, 66-68 Shakespeare St



8.15-10PM

Earth Hour

FREE | ALL AGES

During Earth Hour millions of people turn off their lights to show they care about the planet's future. Embracing the dark, we will be star-gazing and moon-watching with freelance ranger Elizabeth Tindal, followed by hot drinks and star trails. Dress warmly. Indoors if wet. *Dumfries Museum, The Observatory, Rotchell Rd*



Sleeping robodog

£1,200 Japanese robot dog, Aibo, recognises family members - but needs recharging every 2 hours.





10AM-4PM



Mossyard Farm Pottery

£4-£15 | ALL AGES

Paint your own ceramic figurine with **Amy McConchie**. Lots of fun ceramic designs to choose from and take home.

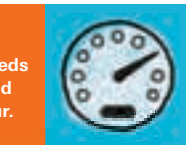
Theatre Royal, 66-68 Shakespeare St

9.20AM

Junior Parkrun

FREE | FAMILIES

Dress as your favourite literary character and join us for the weekly 2km walk, jog or run around Dock Park. Wear sensible footwear. All abilities welcome. Meet at *The Bandstand, Dock Park*



Dog... gone

One of the fastest dog breeds in the world, the greyhound can run at 45 miles an hour.



10AM

Isla and Pickle Kate McLelland

FREE BUT TICKETED | AGES 2+

Isla loves Pickle, the miniature Shetland pony who lives in her neighbour's field. The pair have lots of fun together, but sometimes the mischievous twosome get into a spot of trouble. When Dad asks Isla if she'd like a pet, can she convince him that Pickle should come and live with them?

Theatre Royal, 66-68 Shakespeare St

SUPPORTED BY BARBOURS



11.30AM

Captain Firebeard's School for Pirates Chae Strathie

£4 | AGES 6+

Ahoy me hearties! Hop aboard the fiercest, baddest school on the Seven Seas and join Tommy and his friends for a swashbuckling adventure. Who is stealing sweets from Liquorice Len's tuck shop? Can the class reach the Crow's Nest? And will Captain Firebeard make them all walk the plank?

Theatre Royal, 66-68 Shakespeare St



11.30AM

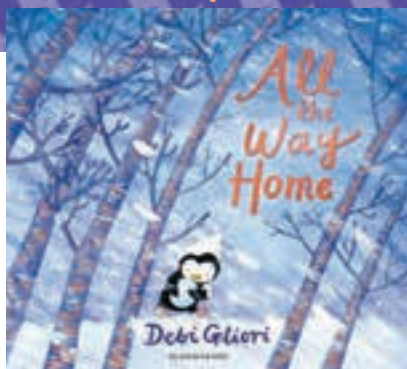
All the Way Home Debi Gliori

£4 | AGES UNDER 5

Daddy Penguin looks after the egg while Mummy Penguin finds a fish. But an enormous gust of wind sweeps Daddy and egg into the Arctic. In this heart-warming tale, brave Daddy Penguin persists through the cold to get his Little One home.

Theatre Royal, 66-68 Shakespeare St

SPONSORED BY UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW'S SCHOOL OF INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES



Sniff competition

Dogs' noses have up to 300 million smell receptors, compared to about six million in ours.



1PM



Multi-sensory Story Adventures Marie Louise Cochrane & Ailie Finlay

£4 | FAMILY

Join storytellers Marie Louise Cochrane and Ailie Finlay for some multi-sensory adventures. Lots of intriguing tactile props and interesting smells! Stories, songs and joining-in for everyone, but particularly suitable for children with additional needs and their friends and families. Tickets limited.

Theatre Royal, 66-68 Shakespeare St



2.30PM

Dear Dinosaur: T Rex on Tour Chae Strathie

FREE BUT TICKETED | AGES 3+

When Max visits his friend, the mighty T Rex at the museum, he's disappointed to learn that T Rex isn't there. Instead, he's halfway around the globe on a world tour. Max writes his missing friend a letter and his faithful friend writes back. Dinosaur fans will love this interactive picture book with fold-out letters and cards.

Dumfries Museum, The Observatory, Rotchell Rd



Bone age survivor

We can trace dogs' origins back 50 million years. But mankind's best friend never shared the planet with dinosaurs.

Sunday 25 MARCH

2.30PM

The Beginner's Guide to Curses Lari Don

FREE BUT TICKETED | AGES 8+

Molly has been cursed by an angry witch to turn into a hare whenever she hears a dog bark. On her quest to lift the curse, she meets a squabbling group of magical beings and fabled beasts, all trying to lift their own curses. Join Lari to enter a world of magic, adventure and friendship, and hope that Big DoG stays quiet, for Molly's sake!

Theatre Royal, 66-68 Shakespeare St



4PM

PARTY Bring a Tiger to Tea

£4 | FAMILY

First published more than 50 years ago, Judith Kerr's *The Tiger Who Came to Tea* has charmed and intrigued generations of children. Join us for our very own tea party as we reimagine Sophie's afternoon tea with her wild visitor. Come dressed as Sophie or the tiger.

Theatre Royal, 66-68 Shakespeare St



Paws for thought

Wild tigers can eat up to 45 kilos in one sitting – the equivalent of 112 cans of dog food by weight. Owp!

Map & Venues



1 Theatre Royal
66-68 Shakespeare St

2 Robert Burns Centre
Mill Rd

3 Dumfries Museum
The Observatory,
Rotchell Rd

4 Ewart Library
Catherine St

5 Georgetown Library
Gillbrae Road

6 Mrs Green's Tea Lounge
16 Queensberry Street

7 Kings Coffee & Books
12 Queensberry Street

8 The Pancake Place
20 English Street

9 The Stove Cafe
100 High Street

i Information points

T Toilets

P Parking



Big DoG is devised and produced by Wigtown Festival Company

Wigtown Festival Company is limited by guarantee with charitable status. Scottish Charity Number SC037984

Media Partner



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