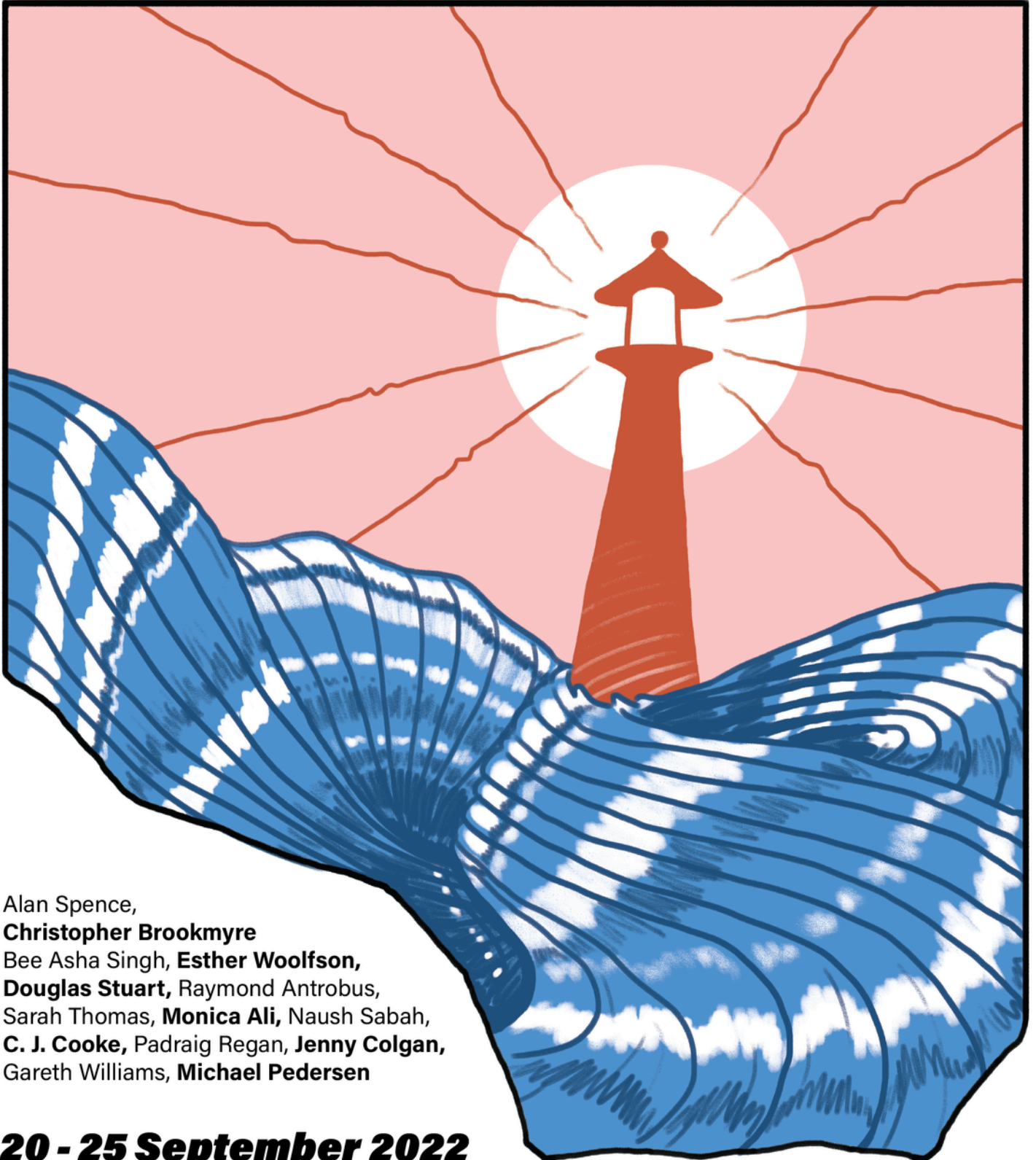


# way **WORD** Festival


A student and youth-led literary cross-arts festival exploring unconventional forms of expression



Alan Spence,  
**Christopher Brookmyre**  
Bee Asha Singh, **Esther Woolfson**,  
**Douglas Stuart**, Raymond Antrobus,  
Sarah Thomas, **Monica Ali**, Naush Sabah,  
**C. J. Cooke**, Padraig Regan, **Jenny Colgan**,  
Gareth Williams, **Michael Pedersen**

**20 - 25 September 2022**

Book free tickets at [www.waywordfestival.com](http://www.waywordfestival.com)

@Waywordabdn   

We are delighted to bring you this year's varied and exciting programme, with most in-person events held in the University of Aberdeen arts and music performance space, King's Pavilion. There are also some online and livestreamed offerings, for those unable to join us in situ.

All venues are accessible and BSL interpretation is available throughout the festival, with captions for online events.

This year's festival includes a substantial Community strand with workshops running in Aberdeen city and shire venues from 17th September to 2nd October, most of which are open to the wider public (see the Community Events Programme).

## Tuesday 20th

**5.30 - 6.30pm** Book Launch: David Wheatley *Stretto*

**7.30 - 8.30pm** Douglas Stuart in conversation with Alan Warner

## Wednesday 21st

**10.30am - 12pm** Songwriting Workshop with Chamber Music Scotland and SC&T Youth

**1 - 2pm** Performing Identities Panel: Aiberdeen Mannie and Celia Toks

**3.30 - 4.30pm** Art, Memory & Displacement with Libertad Ansola Palazuelos and Enxhi Mandija

**5.30 - 6.30pm** Monica Ali

**8 - 10.30pm** North-East Writers & Chamber Music Scotland

## Thursday 22nd

**11am - 12pm** Writing Landscape & Place Workshop with Ian Grosz

**1 - 2pm** Fan Fiction Panel: Judith Fathallah, MandalaRose and Katie Rathfelder

**3.30 - 4.30pm** ArteEast: Sherko Abbas and Afsoon

**5.30 - 6.30pm** Wanderlust Women featuring Lesley Benzie and Noon Salah Eldin

**7 - 8pm** Jenny Colgan & Bee Asha Singh

## Friday 23rd

**11am - 12pm** Writing About Mental Health Workshop with Helen Taylor

**1 - 2pm** Book Launch: Rachele Atalla *The Pharmacist*

**New date & time** Christopher Brookmyre at Aberdeen Central Library **NOW 3-4pm Thurs 6th Oct**

**5.30 - 6.30pm** Michael Pedersen

**7 - 8pm** Alan Spence

To book your free tickets go to [www.waywordfestival.com](http://www.waywordfestival.com)

## Saturday 24th

- 10.30am - 12pm** Discussion: Gaming as a Narrative Art Form
- 1 - 2pm** Scottish Contemporary Drama: Debbie Hannan in conversation with Lucy Hinnie
- 12.30 & 3pm** Doric Dwams
- 3.30 - 4.30pm** Tattered Memory: Memoir with Timothy C. Baker and Helen Taylor
- 5.30 - 6.30pm** Raymond Antrobus
- 7 - 8pm** Centre for the Novel: C.J. Cooke

## Sunday 25th

- 10.30am - 12pm** Gaelic Song Workshop with Eva Brownlie
- 1 - 2pm** Queer Horror Panel: Ever Dundas, Bibi June and Jonny Sims
- 1 - 2pm** Singing Workshop with Polish-Scottish Song Group
- 3pm** Polish-Scottish Choir Performance
- 3.30 - 4.30pm** Pdraig Regan & Naush Sabah
- 5pm** South Asian Dance Performance by Shashwati Pattwakar Vinod
- 5.30 - 6.30pm** Nan Shepherd Event: Sarah Thomas and Esther Woolfson
- 7 - 8.30pm** Writers' Showcase with Leopard Arts and Mearns Writers

## Community Events

### Concrete Poetry & Letterpress Workshop

10am - 1pm BST Saturday 17th September

### The Space Between the Panels - Comic Book Workshop

2:30 - 4pm BST Saturday 17th September

### Children's Poetry Workshop with Matt Kinghorn

Tuesday 20th September (not open to public)

### Comic Creators Assemble: Workshop at Airyhall Library

1.30 - 3pm BST Friday 23rd September

### Words, Images & the Deeper Self: therapeutic photography and poetry workshop

1 - 3 pm BST Sunday 2nd October

## Hazelhead Academy

### Maya MacGregor

Thursday 22nd September (1.05pm)  
(livestreamed on instagram)

### Art for Life

Monday 15th September (not open to public)

### Love For All

Tuesday 16th & Wednesday 17th September (not open to public)

### Equality Alliance:

### Love Wins w/ Outlines

February 2022 - LGBT History Month

To book your free tickets go to [www.waywordfestival.com](http://www.waywordfestival.com)

## Tuesday / 20th September

### Book Launch: David Wheatley *Stretto*

5:30 - 6:30 pm BST | Main Hall, King's Pavilion, UoA Campus

Join us for a special event to celebrate **David Wheatley's** first novel, *Stretto*, a deft exploration at a time when perhaps fewer risks than ever are being taken with the fictional form. David's interest in the French Nouveau Roman fuses with a story of travel and migration over twenty years, moving between Ireland, England and Scotland.

### Douglas Stuart in conversation with Alan Warner

7:30 - 8:30 pm BST | Online

Scottish-American novelist and fashion designer, **Douglas Stuart** won the Booker Prize with *Shuggie Bain* in 2020. His second novel, *Young Mungo*, has become an instant bestseller on publication this year. He talks to novelist **Alan Warner** about writing, transatlantic life, class, gender and much more.

## Wednesday / 21st September

### Songwriting Workshop with Chamber Music Scotland and SC&T Youth

10:30am - 12pm BST | King's Studio, King's Pavilion, UoA Campus

In this practical, interactive workshop aspiring songwriters will have the opportunity to work with composer **Gareth Williams** and singer **Cameron Nixon** to create brand-new songs of their own. Gareth and Cameron will guide participants through the session, and share ideas and tips about the songwriting process.

### Performing Identities Panel: Aiberdeen Mannie and Celia Toks

1 - 2 pm BST | Online

Join our panel discussion online, exploring the use of social media platforms for self-expression and the performance of identities and cultures, with artists **Celia @celiatoks** and **Aiberdeen Mannie @aiberdeenmannie**, who have both found success as 'internet celebrities' through their content on TikTok and Instagram.

### Art, Memory & Displacement with Libertad Ansola Palazuelos and Enxhi Mandija

3:30 - 4:30 pm BST | Main Hall, King's Pavilion, UoA Campus

**Libertad Ansola Palazuelos** and **Enxhi Mandija** create a dialogue across words and images exploring the relationship between imagination, memory, art and writing, the ways different art forms combine to generate new stories: a conversation with readings, chaired by **Wayne Price**. Their work will be exhibited in King's Pavilion throughout the festival.

### Monica Ali

5:30 - 6:30 pm BST | Online



Photo credit: Yolande de Vries

Critically-acclaimed author **Monica Ali** (*Brick Lane*, *Alentejo Blue*, *In the Kitchen*, *Untold Story*) talks about her latest novel, *Love Marriage*, to **Nadia Kiwan**, followed by a live Q&A session.

## North-East Writers & Chamber Music Scotland

8 - 10:30 pm BST (Doors open 7:30) | The Blue Lamp

An evening of performances from traditional singer **Cameron Nixon** and a host of weel-kent NE writers and spoken word performers: **Sahar Abdulla**, **Sheena Blackhall**, **Jo Gilbert** and **Shane Strachan**, followed by *Songs from the Last Page*, a live music performance from **Gareth Williams** and musicians from Chamber Music Scotland, compèred by **Mae Diansangu**.

Thursday / 22nd September

## Writing Landscape & Place Workshop with Ian Grosz

11am - 12pm BST | King's Studio, King's Pavilion, UoA Campus

What role does place play in our lives and how can we approach the landscape to make it a focus for our writing? This one-hour workshop, led by **Ian Grosz**, will attempt the beginnings of an answer to this question. No prior experience is required other than an interest in creative writing, the landscape and the ways in which places help shape our lives.

## Fan Fiction Panel: Judith Fathallah, MandalaRose and Katie Rathfelder

1 - 2 pm BST | Online

Join us for an online discussion of all things fanfiction, including fanfiction in academia, the jump to publishing, the collaborative aspect of fanfiction-writing, fanfiction as representation, and more!

## ArteEast: Sherko Abbas and Afsoon

3:30 - 4:30 pm BST | Main Hall, King's Pavilion, UoA Campus

Join Kurdish-Iraqi artist **Sherko Abbas** and Iranian-born, London-based artist **Afsoon** to learn about their practice and experience some of their work. WayWORD teams up with ArteEast's **Nathaniel Bowditch** and Peacock Arts' **Enxhi Mandija** to showcase the work of two exciting visual artists.



## Wanderlust Women featuring Lesley Benzie and Noon Salah Eldin

5:30 - 6:30 pm BST | Main Hall, King's Pavilion, UoA Campus

Join three Wanderlust Women **Lesley Benzie**, **Donna Campbell** and **Linda Jackson**, together with Wander-in woman and guest artist **Noon Salah Eldin**, for a poetic exploration of travel in all its forms, geographical, mental, spiritual, political and imaginative.

## Jenny Colgan & Bee Asha Singh

7 - 8 pm BST | King's Pavilion, UoA Campus

Why IS romantic fiction still marginalized within the 'literary' world in some ways? Join **Jenny Colgan**, best-selling author and Scottish Queen of Romantic Fiction, and Spoken Word artist **Bee Asha Singh**, who explores lived experience, sexuality, trauma and gender equality in a style between poetry and rap.

Friday / 23rd September

## Writing About Mental Health Workshop with Helen Taylor

11am - 12pm BST | King's Studio, King's Pavilion, UoA Campus

Join novelist and essayist, **Helen Taylor** for a workshop exploring the challenges and benefits of writing about our own mental health experiences. Is autobiography, life-writing, memoir, the way to go, or is it sometimes easier to write about mental health – your own or that of people close to you – in a fictional setting?

## Book Launch: Rachelle Atalla *The Pharmacist*

1 - 2 pm BST | Main Hall, King's Pavilion, UoA Campus

Join us to celebrate **Rachelle Atalla's** debut novel, *The Pharmacist*. Set in a dramatically oppressive, post-apocalyptic underground bunker where Wolfe is the resident pharmacist, tending to desperate needs and embroiled in dark power struggles, this is a captivating work. *The Pharmacist* examines motherhood, morality (or the loss of it), power struggles, love and desperation.

## Christopher Brookmyre at Aberdeen

**Central Library** NEW date & time  
NOW 3 - 4 pm BST Thursday 6th October  
| Aberdeen Central Library

One hen weekend, seven secrets...but only one worth killing for. Join the ever-ebullient **Chris Brookmyre** in the surroundings of Aberdeen Central Library, to celebrate his new novel, *The Cliff House*. A private island, a luxury getaway. They are alone. They think.

## Michael Pederson

5:30 - 6:30 pm BST | Online



Are friendships the greatest love affairs of our lives? And why is it that boys don't hold hands? Award-winning poet **Michael Pedersen** talks about his prose debut, *Boy Friends*, an intimate memoir and moving tribute to Frightened Rabbit's Scott Hutchison, who took his own life in 2018. This event includes a live Q&A with Michael.

## Alan Spence

7 - 8 pm BST | Main Hall, King's Pavilion, UoA Campus

Award-winning poet, playwright, novelist and short story writer, former Professor of Creative Writing at Aberdeen, Edinburgh Makar and WORD Festival Impresario, **Alan Spence** talks to **Helen Lynch** about his latest work, including a new haiku collection and a novel exploring Japanese cultural history, *Mr Timeless Blyth*.



Saturday / 24th September

## Discussion: Gaming as a Narrative Art Form

10:30am - 12pm BST | Online

**Steph Farnsworth**, **Adam Jerret**, and **Velvet Spors** deepdive into narrative and games studies, and how narrative and video games shape each other.

## Scottish Contemporary Drama: Debbie Hannan in conversation with Lucy Hinnie

1 - 2 pm BST | Main Hall, King's Pavilion, UoA Campus

Newly-appointed Associate Artist and Director at the National Theatre of Scotland, and recent Acting Artistic Director at Stockroom, **Debbie Hannan** shares their work and talks about their practice and experiences developing new drama for stage and screen with polymath scholar, editor and improv comedian **fae Huntly**, **Lucy Hinnie**.

## Doric Dwams

12.30pm & 3pm BST | Main Hall, King's Pavilion, UoA Campus

Performed by North-East writer **Shane Strachan** and Cellist **Emily De Simone**, *Doric Dwams* was composed by **Aileen Sweeney**, based on Shane's haiku, savouring the distinctive sound and quality of place and dialect. Don't miss the chance to catch these brief, pop-up performances for spoken word and cello.



## Tattered Memory: Memoir with Timothy C. Baker and Helen Taylor

3:30 - 4:40 pm BST | Main Hall, King's Pavilion, UoA Campus

Authors of recent memoirs, **Professor Timothy C. Baker** and **Dr Helen Taylor**, discuss how to tell a life-story when your memory is in tatters or there are no records of the story you want to tell.

## Raymond Antrobus

5:30 - 6:30 pm BST | King's Pavilion, UoA Campus

A chance to hear award-winning poet **Raymond Antrobus** discuss his new collection, *All The Names Given*, an intimate, personal exploration of names, inheritance and identity.



## Centre for the Novel: C.J. Cooke

7 - 8 pm BST | Main Hall, King's Pavilion, UoA Campus

Hear about **C. J. Cooke's** most recent novel, *The Lighthouse Witches*, a haunting tale of mystery, history and witchcraft, set on a remote Scottish island. Hosted by the University of Aberdeen Centre for the Novel.

Sunday / 25th September

## Gaelic Song Workshop with Eva Brownlie

10:30am - 12pm BST | King's Studio, King's Pavilion, UoA Campus

Learn some Gaelic Songs with accomplished Gaelic singer **Eva Brownlie**. Beginners welcome. This event is brought to you in partnership with Scottish Culture and Traditions Association's SC&T Youth.

To book your free tickets go to [www.waywordfestival.com](http://www.waywordfestival.com)

## Queer Horror Panel: Ever Dundas, Bibi June and Jonny Sims

1 - 2 pm BST | King's College Conference Centre, UoA Campus

What makes for queer horror? Join award-winning creators **Jonathan Sims**, writer and narrator of horror fiction podcast *The Magnus Archives*, **Bibi June**, co-creator of queer horror podcast *Folxlore*, and horror and sci-fi novelist, **Ever Dundas**, author of *Goblin*, and forthcoming *HellSans*, as we discuss what makes queer horror what it is.

## Singing Workshop with Polish-Scottish Song Group

1 - 2 pm BST | King's Studio, King's Pavilion, UoA Campus

You don't have to be Scottish or Polish to come along to this fun singing session led by well-known North-East singer and tradition bearer **Janice Reavell** together with the Polish-Scottish Singing Group. Learn some new traditional songs and meet some new people in a friendly atmosphere.



## Polish-Scottish Choir Performance

3pm BST | Main Hall, King's Pavilion, UoA Campus

The Polish-Scottish Song Group led by **Janice Reavell** sing a selection of Polish and Scottish Songs.

## Padraig Regan & Naush Sabah

3.30 - 4.30 pm BST | Main Hall, King's Pavilion, UoA Campus

Poets **Naush Sabah** and **Padraig Regan** share work from recently-published collections, exploring themes of embodiment, identity, the self and the world.

## South Asian Dance Performance by Shashwati Pattwakar Vinod

5pm BST | Main Hall, King's Pavilion, UoA Campus

South Asian Classical Dancer Shashwati Pattwakar Vinod gives a pop-up performance. Don't miss it.

## Nan Shepherd Event: Sarah Thomas and Esther Woolfson

5.30 - 6.30 pm BST | Main Hall, King's Pavilion, UoA Campus

Writing in the tradition of Nan Shepherd while bringing new insights into the connection between people and place, **Sarah Thomas** and **Esther Woolfson** explore our relationships with animals and environments. This conversation combines science, nature writing, and memoir to discuss everything from ravens to spiders, and Iceland to Aberdeen.

## Writers' Showcase with Leopard Arts and Mearns Writers

7 - 8.30 pm BST | Online

A showcase of local talent: **Leopard Arts** and **Mearns Writers**, two North-East arts platforms, share work from their communities of poets and writers. Grassroots local arts at its finest.





# Community Events

9

These events are running throughout the festival in conjunction with local community groups

## Concrete Poetry & Letterpress Workshop

10am - 1pm BST Saturday 17th September, The Worm, 11 Castle Street, AB11 5BQ

Try your hand at letterpress printing to create a collaborative concrete poem with printmaker **Neil Corall** and writer **Enxhi Mandija** at Peacock: a workshop for art. Tickets for this event are limited with a waitlist.

## The Space Between the Panels - Comic Book Workshop

2:30 - 4pm BST Saturday 17th September, Crafty Cafe, Kintore, AB51 0UA

Join comic creators **Dr Ewen Cameron Millar** and **Chris Robertson** as they talk about life in the trenches making comics for the small press. Get involved with brainstorming ideas and getting started in the wild and quixotic world of sequential comic art. Minimum age 12 years. Tickets are limited, with a waitlist.

## Children's Poetry Workshop with Matt Kinghorn

Tuesday 20th September, Riverbank Primary School (not open to public)

Poet and co-creator of young children's classic *Dreams Can Come Moo*, **Matt Kinghorn** will be giving a storytelling and poetry workshop for Primary Twos at Riverbank Primary to get them creating some poems and stories of their own.

## Comic Creators Assemble: Workshop at Airyhall Library

1.30 - 3pm BST Friday 23rd September, Airyhall Library, AB15 7RF

Explore the different ways comics tell stories and then create your own comic, cram packed with your own amazing characters having fantastic adventures, all with the help of author, storyteller and comic writer **Paul Bristow**. Aimed at 8-12 year-olds. Tickets for this event are limited, with a waitlist.

## Words, Images & the Deeper Self: therapeutic photography and poetry workshop

1 - 3 pm BST Sunday 2nd October 2022, Aberdeen Art Gallery Seminar Room (on Level 2)

A picture is worth 1000 words...but why should photography and language be separated? When combined, they can reveal truths and help us make sense of the world around us. How can we use photography in a therapeutic way, and can linking words and images explore feelings and enhance creativity?

To book your free tickets go to [www.waywordfestival.com](http://www.waywordfestival.com)

## Hazelhead Academy

### Maya MacGregor

Thursday 22nd September (livestreamed on Instagram)

'Queer elder entie' and Glaswegian writer **Maya MacGregor** discusses queerness and autism in their thrilling young adult debut, *The Many Half-Lived Lives of Sam Sylvester*. Sam Sylvester's gripping unravelling of a 30-year-old murder mystery offers readers a beautiful vision of love and uniqueness.

### Art for Life

Monday 15th September 2022 (not open to public)

A number of local practitioners will showcase their varied artistic mediums in this one-off event, hosted by WayWORD's Youth Committee at Hazlehead Academy. Celebrating different creatures, this event for young people will develop passion and creativity in exciting and interactive workshops.

### Love For All

Tuesday 16th & Wednesday 17th September (not open to public)

WayWORD's Youth Committee at Hazlehead Academy are hosting workshops for local primary school children, with the theme of inclusion at their heart. Celebrating the joys of stories, friendship and creativity, these events for little ones will explore and promote acceptance and love in all its forms.

### Equality Alliance:

#### Love Wins w/ Outlines

February 2022 - LGBT History Month

Working with Outlines Collective, pupils from Hazlehead Academy Equality Alliance learned about Art and Activism to devise their own permanent graffiti mural on school premises. Researched, designed and painted by Equality Alliance members and Outlines Collective.



Welcome to WayWORD!

We're delighted to announce a fantastic programme of literary and cross-arts events, brought to you by the University of Aberdeen. Together with a dedicated group of students and young people, the WORD Centre for Creative Writing has devised an exciting line-up of poets, novelists, artists and other creatives for readings, performances, workshops and discussion panels. The festival is mostly taking place in person with some events live online, with BSL interpretation throughout.

Now in its third year, events for 2022 feature **Monica Ali, Raymond Antrobus, Christopher Brookmyre, Jenny Colgan, C. J. Cooke, Michael Pedersen, Pdraig Regan, Naush Sabah, Bee Asha Singh, Alan Spence, Douglas Stuart, Sarah Thomas, Esther Woolfson**, and many more!



**Dr Helen Lynch,  
Creative Director**

There is plenty to entice audiences of all ages and interests and all tickets are free.

Besides established authors and new talent, the festival focusses on more unconventional forms of artistic expression: whether your thing is fan fiction, horror, songwriting, narrative gaming, visual art, poetry, dance or live performance, there is something here for everyone. WayWORD is here - spread the WORD.

## Staff Mentors



Prof. Timothy C. Baker



Dr Elizabeth Elliot



Dr Helena Ifill



Alan Warner  
(Photo Gemma Day)

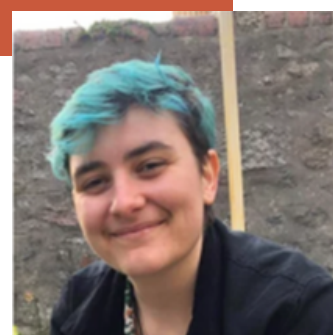
# WayWORD Committee 2022



**Stacey Harkins**



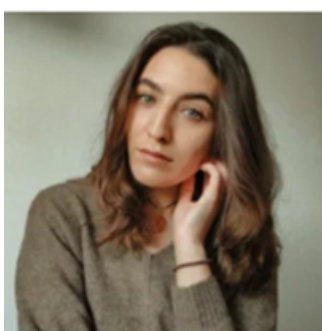
**Ava Nichols**



**Miles M. Stebens**



**MacKenna Sturdevant**

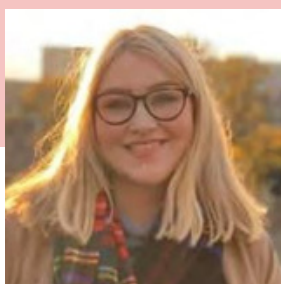


**Elisa Taillefesse**



**Shailini Vinod**

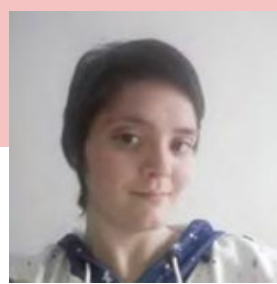
## WayWORD Team & Mentors



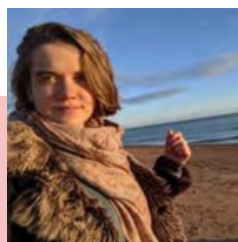
**Kirstie Lawie**  
(Marketing)



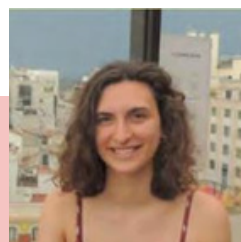
**Naomi Christie**  
(Administration)



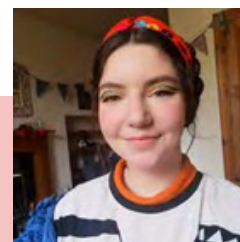
**Beatrix Livesey-Stephens**  
(EDI Co-ordinator)



**Mabel Chambers**  
(Mentor)



**Katerina Gort**  
(Mentor)



**Annie Nichol**  
(Mentor)

## Venues

Most events will be on Campus in the King's Pavilion or King's College Conference Centre (shown on the map below). Your tickets will include maps for non-campus venues. You can reach King's Pavilion from 2 directions: from University Road (past the tennis courts) or from Regent Walk (past the playing fields). The main entrance to the building is on the side nearest Regent Walk.

## Reaching Campus by Bus

You can take the number 1 or 2 and get off at School Drive to the north-east of the campus, you can take the number 20 to King's College in the centre of campus or number 19 to the campus's Sir Duncan Rice Library.

Park and Ride facilities are available at the Bridge of Don (to the north of Aberdeen). The 1B bus from the Park and Ride will take visitors directly to the Old Aberdeen campus.

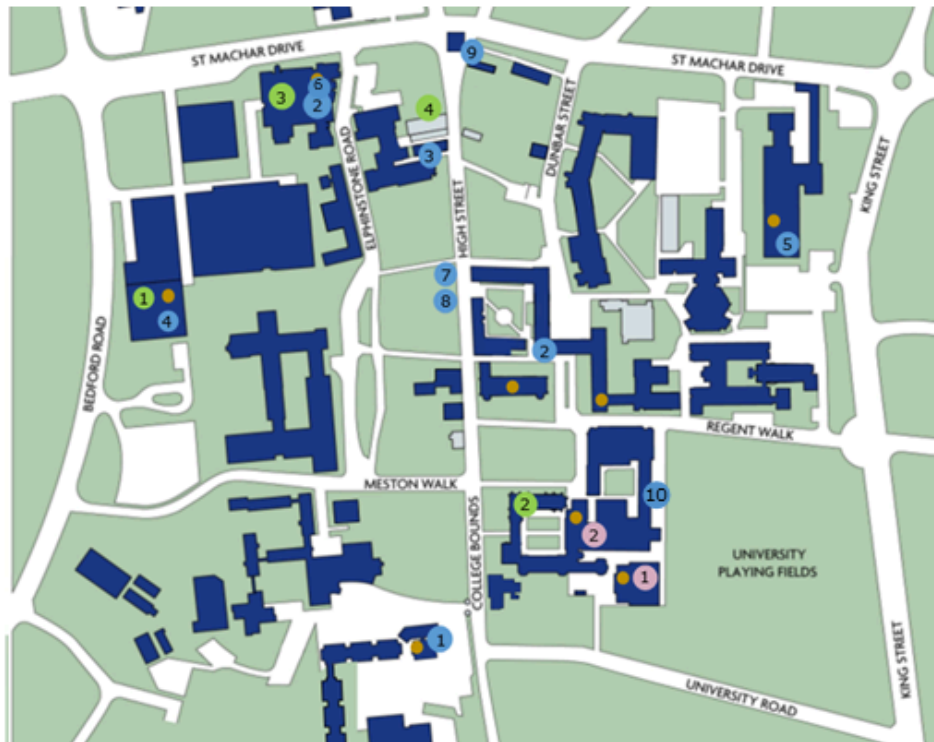
## Reaching Campus by Car

There is no parking on the university campuses on week days. Visitors are advised to travel by public transport or use the park and rides located within the city. There are also car parks around the city and buses can be used to travel to the King's campus.

Blue Badge holders are able to park on campus without a permit 7 days a week. Blue badges must be clearly displayed.

There is ticketed on-street parking on University Road, High Street Old Aberdeen, College Bounds, Regent Walk, and surrounding streets. There is limited free on-street parking on School Road, The Spital, and surrounding streets. There is no parking on campus during week days, although it is free after 5pm Mon-Fri and all day Saturday and Sunday.

To book your free tickets go to  
[www.waywordfestival.com](http://www.waywordfestival.com)



## VENUES

King's Pavilion

King's college Conference Centre

## FACILITIES

Sir Duncan Rice Library

King's College Chapel

The Hub

Blackwell's University Bookshop

## TOILETS

## FOOD & DRINK

1 Starbucks

2 Footstory

3 St Machar Bar

4 Hardback Café

1 Aberbean

2 The Hub Foodcourt

3 J.G.Ross Baker

4 Kilau

9 Shelter

● Food Shack (Sat & Sun only)