



**Bloody Scotland**

Scotland's International Crime Writing Festival

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## **MONDAY 21 MARCH – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **JUDGES ANNOUNCED FOR THE BLOODY SCOTLAND CRIME BOOK OF THE YEAR**

Organisers of the Bloody Scotland Crime Writing Festival today announced the judges for the 2016 Bloody Scotland Crime Book of the Year.

The judges for this year's award are former Scotsman editor Magnus Linklater (chair), journalist and reviewer Lee Randall and PPC Librarian of the Year Stewart Bain of Orkney Library. Submissions for the 2016 award are now open.

Bloody Scotland Crime Book of the Year seeks to recognise and reward excellence in Scottish Crime Writing. The requirements for a book's entry to the competition are that the author is domiciled or born in Scotland, or that the work is set in Scotland. Crime fiction, crime non-fiction and anthologies of short crime stories are all eligible.

2016 will be the fifth year of the award which is given during the Bloody Scotland festival in September. Previous winners are Craig Russell with *The Ghosts of Altona* in 2015, Peter May with *Entry Island* in 2014, Malcolm Mackay with *How A Gunman Says Goodbye* in 2013 and Charles Cumming with *A Foreign Country* in 2012.

Publishers are encouraged to submit eligible titles by Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May at no charge. A shortlist will be announced by the Bloody Scotland festival in July 2016 and will be marketed through a campaign delivered in-part through Waterstones.

The winner will be announced on Friday 09 September 2016, the opening day of the Bloody Scotland festival.

For prize rules and the entry form please visit [www.bloodyscotland.com/crime-book](http://www.bloodyscotland.com/crime-book)

## **COMMENT**

**Bloody Scotland Director Dom Hastings** said "Scottish authors produce some of the best, most interesting and varied crime writing in the world. This award exists to recognise excellence in the genre and I'm looking forward to reading across the broad church that is crime writing in 2016 as well as debating the titles with our excellent panel of judges."

## **NOTES FOR EDITORS**

The **Bloody Scotland Crime Book of the Year** was founded in 2012 to recognise and reward excellence in Scottish crime writing. Crime fiction, crime non-fiction and anthologies of short crime stories are all eligible, provided that the author is domiciled or born in Scotland, or that the work is set in Scotland. The award includes a prize of £1000. Previous winners include Craig Russell with *The Ghosts of Altona* in 2015, Peter May with *Entry Island* in 2014, Malcolm Mackay with *How A Gunman Says Goodbye* in 2013 and Charles Cumming with *A Foreign Country* in 2012. Judges for 2016 are Magnus Linklater (@MagnusLinklater), Lee Randall (@randallwrites) and Stewart Bain (\_Stewart\_Bain / @OrkneyLibrary).

**Bloody Scotland** is Scotland's international Crime Writing Festival and takes place in a number of venues in Central Stirling each September. Established in 2012, the festival aims to showcase the very best Scottish and international crime writing, nurture the next generation of writers through masterclasses and provide opportunities to highlight Scottish crime writing on an international stage.

The 2016 Festival runs from 09 -11 September 2016 and the full programme will be announced in June 2016. Tickets for the Festival are available from [www.bloodyscotland.com](http://www.bloodyscotland.com), by phone on 01786 27 4000, or in person from the Tolbooth Theatre Box Office, Stirling (phone and box office: Tuesday to Saturday 10am–6pm, closed Sunday and Monday). High res images from the festival weekend are available on request.

Bloody Scotland is funded by Stirling Council and Creative Scotland.

**ENDS**

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