

Dornoch gets set to be fully booked

DORNOCH native and Stornoway resident Chris Murray, who published his new book "The Winchman" at the end of May, is one of the authors featured at this year's Dornoch Book Fair this weekend.

He will talk about his book, telling of his 22 years of experience with search and rescue helicopters.

As a special new event for the Book Fair, Clio Gray, author and founder of the Highlands and Islands Short Story competition, will hold a short story workshop to encourage budding and experienced writers to use this format.

In addition, there will be a busy programme of authors and poets who are coming to talk about their work and publications.

Alec Hyde will discuss his supernatural thriller trilogy "The False Light Conspiracy".

W. A. M. Mackenzie has recently released a book of his Highland childhood memoirs, entitled "Where's Home?"

James Andrew will read poems from his book "Birdsong and Flame", written while working and living in Istanbul.

Callum Night will introduce his books of dark poetry and short stories, while Margaret Skea will present her first novel "Turn of the Tide" which was the historical fiction winner in the 2011 Harper Collins/Alan Titchmarsh People's Novelist Competition.

This will be the third Book Fair held by the Dornoch and District Community Association and is a key fundraising event towards a new leisure centre in the town.

All of the vast stock of second-hand books for sale on the day are donated by members of the public. As a result, there is a wide range of genres and subjects, new and old, with the majority being best-selling paperbacks.

Also taking part are the Highland Book Fair Tours, selling and dealing in antiquarian books, with a wide range of important and collectible books. They will be on hand to provide valuations and answer any questions about old books.

On Saturday night, there will be an evening of comedy, poetry and music from 7.30pm, featuring Nick Trumble and Alan MacLeod. Tickets cost £12 with refreshments - to book, call 01862 810958.

Teas, coffees, and home baking are available all day and the sofas in the coffee lounge make the ideal spot for reading new purchases.

Donations of books and offers of help to set up and pack away are extremely welcome.

For further details and the timetable of talks, see www.dornochbookfair.com or contact Mark or Pat at dornochbookfair@gmail.com.