

BOOK FESTIVAL

WORDS OF WAR

THE
BLACK
WATCH 
Castle | Shop | Museum | Bistro

THE BLACK WATCH CASTLE AND MUSEUM
SATURDAY 1ST AND SUNDAY 2ND OCTOBER 2022
10AM – 5PM | TALKS £10



Featuring authors, talks and book signings

HOW TO BOOK

T: 01738 638152, option 3
W: theblackwatch.co.uk

Hay Street,
Perth, PH1 5HR



Welcome

In Autumn 2019 The Black Watch Castle and Museum hosted the first Words of War Book Festival. With a varied programme of talks from an eclectic mix of authors, the event proved very popular with a positive hum of interest and enthusiasm from both visitors and authors. This year is VisitScotland's 'Year of Stories' and therefore felt like the perfect time to organise our second Words of War Book Festival.

A number of the authors featured in this year's programme have spent time doing research in the extensive archive held by The Black Watch Castle and Museum. The unique archive and collection have long been a place of intrigue and interest for authors from far and wide. We are therefore delighted that, through our Book Festival, we can give you the opportunity to listen to and meet some of those authors who write about the many aspects of war, the military, military history and war stories. All the books discussed will be available for purchase during the authors' book signing sessions after each talk.

The Black Watch Museum will be open to explore between 9.30am – 4.30pm with the admission ticket giving you all day access. Our Castle Gift Shop offers a selection of unique gifts and Regimental memorabilia, whilst the Castle Bistro will provide a relaxing space for refreshments throughout the weekend.

The Black Watch Castle and Museum is part of a charitable trust and all proceeds from the Words of War Book Festival will go towards supporting our charitable objectives. Our aim is to sustain The Home of The Black Watch for future generations, to engage, educate and entertain our visitors and support our valued Black Watch veterans.

We are most grateful for the ongoing support and encouragement we receive from our Patron, Professor Sir Hew Strachan FBA, FRS, and also our featured authors and interviewers who are giving so generously of their time.



Anne Kinnes
Chief Executive



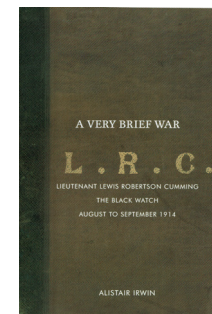
Lt Gen Sir Alistair Irwin in conversation with Victoria Schofield

Saturday 1st | 10.00 | £10

First World War – Biography

This is the story not of a great General, nor of a much-feted national hero, nor indeed of the scion of some grand family; instead, it tells of the all too brief life of just one of the host of young officers who marched so bravely to the sound of the guns in August 1914, so many of them never to return.

In conversation with **Victoria Schofield**, author of the two-volume history of The Black Watch, 'The Highland Furies' and 'Fighting in The Front Line', **Lt Gen Sir Alistair Irwin** will discuss how he researched and wrote about the life of his great uncle Lt Lewis Cumming, describing how he and the men of The Black Watch fought and died during the opening stages of the First World War. From his early life on Speyside to the front line, this is a story that will resonate with many families across the land.



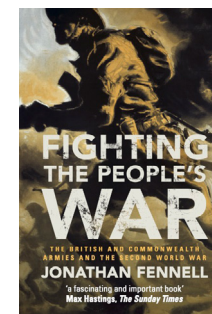
Dr Jonathan Fennell in conversation with Professor Sir Hew Strachan

Saturday 1st | 11.45 | £10

Second World War

The award-winning 'Fighting the People's War' is an unprecedented, panoramic history of the 'citizen armies' of the United Kingdom, Australia, Canada, India, New Zealand and South Africa, the core components of the British and Commonwealth armies in the Second World War. **Dr Jonathan Fennell** has drawn on new sources to reveal the true wartime experience of the ordinary rank and file; he challenges our understanding of the war and of the relationship between conflict and socio-political change more generally.

In conversation with **Professor Sir Hew Strachan**, Jonathan will discuss the way in which fractures on the home front had profound implications for the performance of the British and Commonwealth armies. They will interrogate soldiers' political beliefs, many of which emerged as a consequence of their combat experience and reflect on how those who fought shaped socio-political change and forged the post-war era.



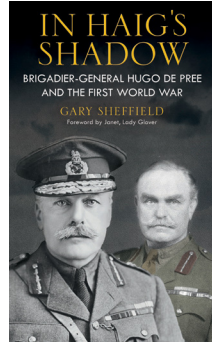


Professor Gary Sheffield in conversation with Professor Sir Hew Strachan

Saturday 1st | 14.00 | £10

First World War

Much has been written about Field Marshal Earl Haig over the last century, not least by **Professor Gary Sheffield** in his earlier book 'Douglas Haig: From The Somme to Victory'. However, while researching



Haig's nephew Hugo De Pree, Gary was given access to a 'treasure trove' of previously unseen letters and papers belonging to the Haig and De Pree families.

In conversation with **Professor Sir Hew Strachan**, one of the world's foremost experts on the First World War, Gary will talk about the families' 'insider information' on Haig, his personal papers and historical legacy. They will also discuss the unknown story of Haig's nephew Hugo De Pree, which gives a fascinating insight into the life of a First World War Staff Officer and Brigade Commander and led to the publishing of 'In Haig's Shadow'.



Dr Andrew Jeffrey interviewed by Dr Nicola Small

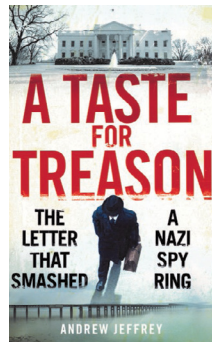
Saturday 1st | 15.45 | £10

Second World War – Nazi Espionage Comes to Dundee

'A Taste For Treason' is the dramatic, untold story of how a Nazi spy's letter, posted in New York and intercepted in Scotland in 1938, broke spy rings across Europe and North America. Following parallel Nazi espionage plots in the UK and

USA and an extraordinary cast of characters as they converged on a Scottish post office, this is a thrilling true story of the international spy hunt that followed.

Dr Andrew Jeffrey will discuss with **Dr Nicola Small** the remarkable housewife spycatcher who set MI5 on the trail of Nazi Germany's most notorious spy in pre-war Britain and how that single letter marked the genesis of an intelligence sharing and security alliance that today includes the United States, United Kingdom, Canada, Australia and New Zealand, the so-called Five Eyes.



Lt Col Charles Wood interviewed by Lt Gen Sir Alistair Irwin

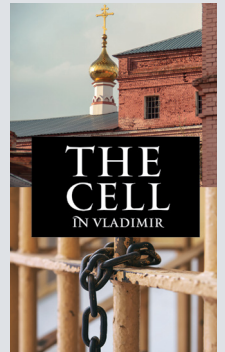
Sunday 2nd | 10.00 | £10

Second World War – Prisoner of War

On 2 September 1944, a German Wehrmacht Liaison Officer was captured by the Russians in Bucharest. His name was Lt Col Heinz-Helmut von Hinckeldey and he was to remain a 'war convict' of the Soviets until 1955.

For 11 years, Heinz-Helmut von Hinckeldey had to endure the deprivation – both physical and psychological – of imprisonment; the filth and squalor of the cells in which he was kept; the agony of isolation and repeated self examination; and the pain of ignorance, of not knowing if his motherland (Germany) still existed or whether those he loved, ever realised that he was alive.

Lt Col Charles Wood will discuss with **Lt Gen Sir Alistair Irwin** how he learnt of this story with fascination and then admiration while working as Military Assistant to Maj Gen von Hinckeldey, who was by then the Chief of Staff at HQ Northern Army Group at Moenchengladbach, Northern Germany. They will talk about von Hinckeldey's life, particularly the 11 years spent in captivity and how he coped with and was shaped by the experience.



Explore the history of Scotland's oldest Highland Regiment with our Black Watch story guided tour.

Daily 11.00 and 13.00
Adult £17.50
Concession £16.75





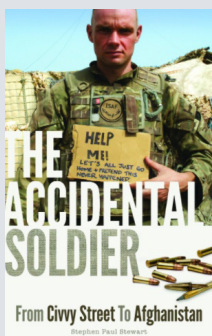
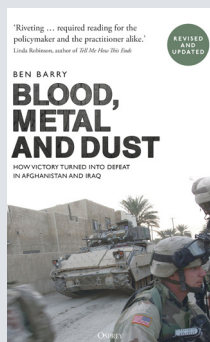
Brig Ben Barry interviewed by Stephen Paul Stewart

Sunday 2nd | 11.45 | £10

Afghanistan and Iraq Wars – What Went Wrong

The Afghanistan and Iraq conflicts, inextricably linked to the ongoing 'War on Terror', have overshadowed the beginning of the 21st century. How did these wars play out, what were their underlying politics and what happened on the ground?

Brig Ben Barry's book 'Blood, Metal and Dust', is the first military history to offer a comprehensive overview of the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. Shortlisted for The Duke of Wellington Medal for Military History 2021, this book provides in-depth accounts of the operations undertaken by both US and UK forces and explores the wars that shaped the modern Middle East. Journalist and one time soldier, **Stephen Paul Stewart** will discuss these controversial conflicts with Ben, the high ranking officer who wrote the British military analysis of the war in Iraq.



Award winning journalist Stephen Paul Stewart was given a taste of the war in Afghanistan when he was the embedded journalist with The Black Watch, 3rd Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Scotland, in 2009.

His reporting mission to the front line changed his life forever. He gave up his career reporting and joined the British Army before deploying to Afghanistan as a combat infantryman. His book 'The Accidental Soldier' tells of his experiences.



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Dr Robert Lyman in conversation with Lt Col Andy Middlemiss

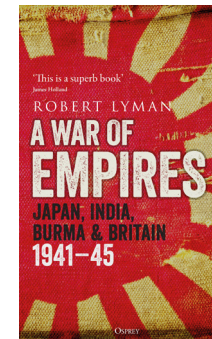
Sunday 2nd | 14.00 | £10

Second World War – The Burma Campaign

In 1941 and 1942, the British and Indian armies were brutally defeated in the Far East by the Japanese, who then

occupied its newly conquered territories throughout Asia. But change was coming. New commanders were appointed, significant restructuring and training took place and new tactics were developed.

Dr Robert Lyman will discuss with Lt Col Andy Middlemiss these coordinated efforts and how a new volunteer Indian Army, rising from the ashes of defeat, contributed to turning the tide of war. They will examine why victory did not come until March 1944, when the Japanese staged their famed 'March on Delhi', and how the years of rebuilding the Indian Army reaped rewards after bitter fighting. Robert will also explain how vital this hard-fought campaign was in securing Allied victory in the East, ultimately redrawing the map of the region with an independent India all but guaranteed.



Dr Derek Patrick and Dr Fraser Brown in conversation with Victoria Schofield

Sunday 2nd | 15.45 | £10

First World War – Rediscovered Histories

What does it mean for a Regiment to be rooted in its community? 'The Black Watch in The Great War' demonstrates exactly that connection. There is no shortage of books dedicated to telling the story of The Black Watch but this book shines a light on parts of the Regiment's history that others rarely have space to include.



Dr Derek Patrick and Dr Fraser Brown will discuss with Victoria Schofield the extraordinarily moving collection of stories of Black Watch men, their families, their communities and comrades contained in this book. From fighting soldiers to padres and poets, many previously untold stories are pieced together from family papers and archive material to build a very human picture behind The Black Watch, a regiment which lost over 8,000 men during the 'War to end all Wars'.

BOOK FESTIVAL

WORDS OF WAR

PROGRAMME

DAY TICKET £35 | ALL TALKS £10 EACH

Saturday 1st October

10.00	Lt Gen Sir Alistair Irwin and Victoria Schofield
11.45	Dr Jonathan Fennell and Professor Sir Hew Strachan
14.00	Professor Gary Sheffield and Professor Sir Hew Strachan
15.45	Dr Andrew Jeffrey and Dr Nicola Small

Sunday 2nd October

10.00	Lt Col Charles Wood and Lt Gen Sir Alistair Irwin
11.45	Brig Ben Barry and Stephen Paul Stewart
14.00	Dr Robert Lyman and Lt Col Andy Middlemiss
15.45	Dr Derek Patrick, Dr Fraser Brown and Victoria Schofield

Festival Patron: Professor Sir Hew Strachan FBA, FRS

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