



## First supermarket book tour to be held during Book Week Scotland 2019

### Crime author Helen Fields to visit Asda superstores across Scotland

Scottish Book Trust, the national charity changing lives through reading and writing, has today launched the first supermarket book tour with crime author Helen Fields as part of Book Week Scotland 2019. Helen will host free events in five Asda superstores across east and central Scotland over three days. With one in ten books in the UK sold in supermarkets<sup>1</sup>, these stores can play an important role in communities, opening up opportunities for both book lovers and more reluctant readers.

Former criminal barrister Helen Fields is the author of best-selling DI Callanach crime thriller series set in Scotland. She spent years working with the police, CPS, Social Services, expert witnesses and in Courts Martials, and has used these experiences to inspire and inform her critically acclaimed books. The most recent instalment *Perfect Crime*, set in Edinburgh, follows the investigation of a series of murders disguised as suicides. As part of the Book Week Scotland celebrations, there will be 20 free copies of *Perfect Crime* given away at each Asda event.

**Marc Lambert, CEO of Scottish Book Trust, said:** "It's an exciting milestone for Scottish Book Trust to host the first supermarket book tour as part of Book Week Scotland. This is an opportunity for us to ensure even more people across the country can access Book Week Scotland events. I'm sure that supermarket shoppers will be delighted to discover Helen Field's thrilling novels and hear about her stories first-hand."

During Book Week Scotland, Helen will also appear at an event at Waterstones West End on Friday 22 November in conversation with Fife-based crime writer Neil Broadfoot.

Initiated by the Scottish Government and supported by £200,000 from the National Lottery through Creative Scotland Targeted Funding and £26,000 from SLIC, Book Week Scotland 2019 will be delivered by Scottish Book Trust from 18 November – 24 November.

**Helen Fields, said:** "I'm thrilled and excited to have the opportunity to join the Book Week Scotland celebrations. Books can't exist without readers, and there's nothing I like more than having the chance to talk about how reading benefits both individuals and communities. It's a privilege to be able to support this amazing event, and I hope you'll find the time to come and say hello."

For more information about Book Week Scotland 2019 and how you can get involved, visit [www.bookweekscotland.com](http://www.bookweekscotland.com) where you can find information about all the events taking place in your local area.

### Tour Details

#### Monday 18 November

2pm, Asda Straiton Superstore, Pentland Road, Loanhead, EH20 9NY



## Tuesday 19 November

2pm, Asda Glenrothes Superstore, Fullerton Road, Glenrothes, KY7 5QB

6pm, Asda Forfar Superstore, Unit 1, New Road, Forfar, DD8 2AE

## Wednesday 20 November

10am, Asda Aberdeen Beach Superstore, Beach Boulevard Retail Park, Aberdeen, AB11 5EJ

5pm, Asda Perth Superstore, 89 Dunkeld Road, Perth, PH1 5AP

## Notes to Editors

For all press queries, please contact:

Keara Donnachie [Keara.Donnachie@scottishbooktrust.com](mailto:Keara.Donnachie@scottishbooktrust.com) or call 0131 524 0184

Daisy Bartlett [daisy.bartlett@scottishbooktrust.com](mailto:daisy.bartlett@scottishbooktrust.com) or call 0131 524 0160

<sup>1</sup> Books & Consumers, UK Book Sales Source of Purchase 2014, BA Reports Library, April 2015

## Scottish Book Trust

Scottish Book Trust is a national charity changing lives through reading and writing. We inspire and support the people of Scotland to read and write for pleasure through programmes and outreach work that include:

- Gifting books to every child in Scotland to ensure families of all backgrounds can share the joy of books at home.
- Working with teachers to inspire children to develop a love of reading, creating innovative classroom activities, book awards and author events.
- Supporting Scotland's diverse writing community with our training, awards and writing opportunities.
- Funding a range of author events for the public to enjoy and promoting Scottish writing to people worldwide.

In addition to the funding we receive from the Scottish Government and Creative Scotland, we need the constant support of trusts and foundations, corporate sponsors and individual donors.

[www.scottishbooktrust.com](http://www.scottishbooktrust.com) @scottishbktrust [www.facebook.com/scottishbktrust](https://www.facebook.com/scottishbktrust)

For more information about **Book Week Scotland**, visit [www.bookweekscotland.com](http://www.bookweekscotland.com). Follow @Bookweekscot on Twitter, check out #bookweekscotland or like the Book Week Scotland Facebook page.

## **Helen Fields**

Helen Fields studied law at the University of East Anglia, then went on to the Inns of Court School of Law in London. After completing her pupillage, she joined chambers in Middle Temple where she practised criminal and family law for thirteen years.

After her second child was born, Helen left the Bar. Together with her husband David, she runs a film production company, acting as script writer and producer. Her *Perfect Remains* crime thriller series is set in Scotland, where Helen feels most at one with the world. Helen and her husband now commute between Hampshire and California with their three children.

## **A Year of Conversation 2019**

A Year of Conversation 2019 is about us all celebrating, initiating and exploring conversation in our lives. There will be some events involving many people at places you might expect – festivals for example. But there will be many conversation events that are smaller and more intimate too. What is a 'conversation event'? It's simply something that's been planned – that you might have planned – in which conversation plays a significant part or which gives rise to conversation. So it may be a performance of some kind or it may be a group of people (you have) chosen for a special reason to share a meal. There will be information about events on the website, but there will also be space for you to reflect on your own experiences of conversation.