PRESS RELEASE

Publishing Scotland turns 45 and launches new international promotion service

Publishing Scotland, the trade association for the book publishing industry in Scotland, celebrates its 45th year and launches a new international promotion service, Scottish Books International, at the Frankfurt Book Fair.

In 1974 the Scottish Publishers Association was born, ten small publishers getting together in Edinburgh to create their own publishing body for joint promotion, exhibiting at book fairs and training.

45 years later, the association, now renamed Publishing Scotland, has over 100 members, a distribution company in Glasgow which warehouses and distributes for over 90 companies, an International Publishing Fellowship, and is now launching Scottish Books International, in partnership with the Edinburgh International Book Festival and Creative Scotland.

Scottish Books International acts as a connecting force for Scottish literature overseas, fostering partnerships with organisations, facilitating cultural exchange for writers and supporting publishers to develop a stronger presence in foreign markets. It is designed to act as a key point of contact for the Scottish sector, building relationships with Scotland and other territories. SBI’s pilot initiative is an Author International Travel Fund, a grants scheme supporting authors invited to festivals and events overseas. The fund has so far supported Scottish writers with travel to New Zealand, France, Ireland, Italy, Australia, USA, Indonesia, Portugal, China, Poland and Japan.

At the Frankfurt Book Fair, SBI will launch itself to the world market and develop partnerships with German organisations and publishers, in support of a German cultural season, forthcoming in 2020.


Marion Sinclair, Chief Executive of Publishing Scotland, said: “It’s a real privilege to celebrate our 45th year by attending the Frankfurt Book Fair again. Many of our publishers, such as Canongate,
have been with us for the entire life of this organisation and we take seriously that vote of confidence in us as a collective body to support, promote, and train both established publishers and the publishers of the future.

Membership is at an all-time high, and we continue to look outwards for new opportunities for our members, their books and their authors, to reach new audiences. A sincere thanks goes to our funding body, Creative Scotland and its predecessor, The Scottish Arts Council, for their financial and invaluable support over the years.”

For further information please contact marion.sinclair@publishingscotland.org.

**Notes to Editors:**

**Publishing Scotland** is the network for trade, training and development, a membership body and a charity. Scottish Books International, the International Fellowship Programme, the Translation Fund the Go-See Fund, our rights catalogues, and our Book Fair presence are all part of our internationalisation programme designed to make doing business overseas easier and more cost-effective for Scottish publishers. Visit [www.publishingscotland.org](http://www.publishingscotland.org)

Follow on Twitter: [@publishscotland](https://twitter.com/publishscotland)

**Scottish Books International** supports the development of international links for Scotland’s writers, festivals, publishers and organisations. A scoping project, supported by Publishing Scotland, the Edinburgh International Book Festival and Creative Scotland, SBI works to develop international activity by identifying and progressing opportunities for increased visibility for writers, publishers, festivals and organisations; identifying potential income sources, and building relationships with key partners in Scotland and overseas. SBI is led by Sasha de Buyl and supported by a steering group. Visit [www.scottishbooksinternational.org](http://www.scottishbooksinternational.org)

Follow on Twitter: [@ScotBooksInt](https://twitter.com/ScotBooksInt)

**The Frankfurt Book Fair** takes place from 16-20 October 2019 and is the world’s largest trade fair for books and publishing, based on the number of publishing companies represented and the number of visitors. The Scotland at Frankfurt stand will be in Halle 6.0, stand number E91

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