

ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON DAY 2015



Stevenson
ON STAGE & SCREEN

EVENTS PROGRAMME
9-15 NOVEMBER

#RLSDay

cityofliterature.com/rlsday



**BOOKS
WORDS
IDEAS**

Edinburgh City of Literature

Robert Louis Stevenson

Robert Louis Stevenson (RLS) is a world-famous writer and Edinburgh lad, born and bred. Every year on his birthday - 13 November - Edinburgh as a UNESCO City of Literature comes together for RLS Day to celebrate one of its most famous literary sons.

The theme this year is **STEVENSON ON STAGE AND SCREEN**. Over the decades his words have inspired productions for theatre, radio and cinema. This November, we invite you to gallop across the silver screen with his characters and tread the boards with the man himself.

A special programme strand delves into the secrets of Stevenson's life and works this year with our specially commissioned 'hidden RLS' events marked by this icon.



Events take place across Edinburgh from 9 to 15 November 2015 with a particular focus on Stevenson's birthday, 13 November. RLS Day is brought you by the City of Literature Trust with support from partners.

#RLSDay

cityofliterature.com/rlsday

rlsday@cityofliterature.com

EXHIBITIONS

'From Colinton to California' Exhibitions



Sighthill Library: Mon, Wed 1pm - 8pm | Tue, Fri 10 - 5pm | Closed Thu | Sat 10 - 2pm

Ratho Library: Mon, Wed 1pm - 8pm | Tue, Thu, Fri, Sat 10 - 5pm

Between 9 - 14 November visit Sighthill and Ratho libraries to see their 'From Colinton to California' Stevenson displays, featuring books set in the places mentioned in the new Robert Louis Stevenson cultural route.

Free, no booking necessary.

Stevenson on Stage and Screen Mini-Exhibition



National Library for Scotland, George IV Bridge:
Wed 11 - Mon 16 November



Between 11 - 16 November in the foyer of the National Library of Scotland there will be a small, varied display of materials from the archives relating to film versions of Stevenson's work.

Free, no booking necessary.

HIDDEN RLS

This strand of RLS Day take us deeper into Stevenson's life with talks, walks and special access to places and buildings significant in Stevenson's life, from his home in the New Town to the hallowed rooms of the Speculative Society. Look for the



icon.

CITYOFLITERATURE.COM/RLSDAY

This website will help you explore Stevenson's writing, learn about literary Edinburgh and has specially commissioned RLS Day guest articles, event information, reading lists and schools packs. You can also get the latest RLS Day news and make bookings for events.

SCHOOLS

There are a range of free RLS Day events for schools. Just email us on rlsday@cityofliterature.com or visit cityofliterature.com/rlsday4schools where you'll also find free Stevenson schools packs and reading ideas and tips.

TUESDAY 10 NOVEMBER

Stevenson on the Screen and Beyond



50 George Square (room 1.06): 4 - 5pm



Join Edinburgh University students and staff for three short talks exploring Stevenson's literary creations on the screen and beyond.

Free, no booking necessary.

RLS-Themed Hush Hour



Lucky Liquor Co. 39A Queen Street: 7pm



Hush Hour in November will be joining in the RLS Day celebrations with a special one-off RLS-themed Hush Hour. So bring an RLS book, sip a cocktail and bask in RLS joy.

Free, no booking necessary.

Pirates Ahoy!



Teviot Row House on Bristo Place: 7.30pm



A pirates-in-film themed pub quiz, followed by a screening of Disney's cult classic RLS inspired space animated epic *Treasure Planet*.

£3, get your tickets at the door of the Teviot Study.

In the Footsteps of RLS



Poetry Steps, Colinton: 10.30am



Join Colinton Community Conservation Trust for a free 1 hour guided walk in Colinton, exploring the new Stevenson Poetry Trail.

Free, booking essential - email invermay@virginmedia.com to book.

WEDNESDAY 11 NOVEMBER

The Body Snatchers: RLS at the Anatomical Museum



Anatomical Museum, Teviot Place: 6 - 9pm



For one night only, Edinburgh University's Anatomical Museum opens its doors to the public to explore the connections between its collections and Stevenson's work, from *The Body Snatchers* to *Jekyll and Hyde*.

Free, no booking necessary.

THURSDAY 12 NOVEMBER

The Lighthouse Stevensons in Leith



Trinity House in Leith: 11am and 2pm



Explore Trinity House, Leith's hidden treasure, and its maritime collections before finding out about the Stevenson family connections with the sea in a fascinating one-off event.

Free, booking essential - visit cityofliterature.com/rlsday to book.

New Town, Old Tales: RLS Walking Tour



West Register House, Charlotte Square: 12 - 2pm



Join professional tour guide Colin Brown to explore the New Town and Water of Leith and the life and times of Robert Louis Stevenson, uncovering the light and dark sides of Edinburgh and its writers.

£10/£9, booking essential - call 0131 553 7473.

In the Footsteps of RLS



Poetry Steps, Colinton: 12 noon



Join Colinton Community Conservation Trust for a free 1 hour guided walk in Colinton, exploring the new Stevenson Poetry Trail.

Free, booking essential - email invermay@virginmedia.com to book.

Café Voices: Stevenson Stories



Scottish Storytelling Centre: 7.30pm



Join storytellers Fergus McNicol and Claire McNicol for an evening of Robert Louis Stevenson stories.

£5, call 0131 556 9579 to book or visit scottishstorytellingcentre.co.uk

The Laird of Samoa



Scottish Storytelling Centre: 2pm (schools performance) and 7.30pm



This dramatic performance takes you on a pilgrimage through the life of Robert Louis Stevenson, from his childhood in Edinburgh to maturity in America and the South Sea islands. Starring John Shedden as RLS and produced and directed by Mark Taylor.

£11/£6, call 0131 556 9579 or visit scottishstorytellingcentre.co.uk

FRIDAY 13 NOVEMBER

RLS Way Walk



The Hawes Inn: 10.30am



From the Hawes Inn, South Queensferry along the Forth via Cramond to Corstophine, Edinburgh, follow in RLS's footsteps in this informative guided walk.

Free, booking essential - call 0141 777 7006 or email ian@stevensonway.org.uk

Stevenson and H. G. Wells' The Island of Doctor Moreau



Central Library, George IV Bridge: 11am



Professor Linda Dryden from Edinburgh Napier University talks about RLS and his influence on other writers, in particular H. G. Wells' *The Island of Doctor Moreau*.

Free, booking essential - call 0131 242 8100.

From an Original Idea by RLS



Scottish Storytelling Centre: 11am - 6pm



Drop by for a taster of a Stevenson story, read by members and friends of the RLS Club. You can enjoy classic Stevenson books in the theatre of the mind before seeing what the movie-makers did with the story.

Free, no booking required - dip into a scene or two or stay all day.

New Town, Old Tales: RLS Walking Tour



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Join professional tour guide Colin Brown to explore the New Town and Water of Leith and the life and times of Robert Louis Stevenson, uncovering the light and dark sides of Edinburgh and its writers.

£10/ £9, booking essential - call 0131 553 7473.

A Mighty Bloodless Substitute



Writers' Museum: 1pm and 2pm



The award-winning Edinburgh Living History group will entertain you with dramatised readings from RLS's works.

Free - drop in, no need to book.

FRIDAY 13 NOVEMBER CONT.

Stevenson on Screen: Scotland's Gift to Hollywood



National Library of Scotland, George IV Bridge:
2pm



Join Andrew Martin, Curator at the National Library of Scotland as he explores the Alan Brecks, Jekylls and Hydes and Long John Silvers of vintage cinema.

Free, booking essential - visit nls.uk/events

The Devil Inside: Translating The Bottle Imp into an Opera



The Sanctuary of St Augustine's Church, George IV Bridge: 3pm



As part of RLS Day, librettist Louise Welsh and composer Stuart MacRae discuss their collaboration on their new opera *The Devil Inside* based on Stevenson's *The Bottle Imp*, ahead of its world premiere in January.

Free, no booking necessary

Tea at Heriot Row



17 Heriot Row: 3pm



Enjoy afternoon tea at the Edinburgh home of RLS, where Jeremy Hodges lifts the curtain on Stevenson's formative dramatic experiences - Skelt's Juvenile Drama and his amateur performances in the Jenkin Theatricals.



£16.55 - visit cityofliterature.com/rlsday to book.

Stevenson on Stage and Screen



The Faculty of Advocates, Parliament House: 6pm



Actor, writer and RLS Day Patron Nigel Planer chairs a debate on the challenge of staging Stevenson for cinema, theatre and television with screenwriter Charlie Fletcher and *'The Snowman'* composer Howard Blake. The evening includes a special screening of Howard Blake's short animated film *'The Land of Counterpane'*.



£7, booking essential - napier.ac.uk/events to book.

An Evening with Robert Louis Stevenson



The Hawes Inn: 8 - 9pm



It's 1886 and Robert Louis Stevenson is in the Hawes Inn looking for peace and quiet to write. But the noise from building works outside forces him to escape to the bar, where he ends up giving an impromptu recital of his latest novel. Starring John Shedden as RLS.

£4 - email info@queensferrytours.com or call 07592 454 006 to book.

SATURDAY 14 NOVEMBER

A Mighty Bloodless Substitute



Writers' Museum: 1pm and 2pm



The award-winning Edinburgh Living History group will entertain you with dramatised readings from RLS's works.

Free - drop in, no need to book.

Stevenson at the Speculative Society



Edinburgh University Old College: 5 - 6.30pm and 8 - 9.30pm



Go behind the scenes at the Speculative Society for a rare candle-lit evening of wonder and wit in celebration of one of the Society's most famous members, Robert Louis Stevenson.

£20, email rlsday@cityofliterature.com to book (tickets limited, proceeds to charity).

Kidnapped: When Kilts were Banned



Scottish Storytelling Centre: 2pm and 7pm



Discover the essential Stevenson classic novel *Kidnapped*, brought to life in Donald Smith's gutsy, exhilarating adaptation.

£8/£6, booking essential - call 0131 556 9579 or visit scottishstorytellingcentre.co.uk

SUNDAY 15 NOVEMBER

Edinburgh Gothic



Summerhall: 7.30pm, doors open 7pm



A night of gothica from the Edinburgh Short Film Festival featuring a special screening of *Dr Jekyll & Mr Hyde* (1920) alongside a creepy selection of Edinburgh-shot gothic shorts.

£6/£5 - visit edinburghshortfilmfestival or email edinburghshorts@gmail.com to book.

EVENTS FOR FAMILIES

FRIDAY 13 NOVEMBER

Pirate Story - Time at Edinburgh Bookshop



Edinburgh Bookshop, 219 Bruntsfield Place:

9.30 - 10.30am



Dress up as a pirate and come along to a story-time completely dedicated to pirates ... and hear some great RLS verses as well.

Free, no booking necessary.

Pirates Treasure Hunt



Caledonia Scotia Kilt Shop, South Queensferry:

from 1pm



Come dressed as a pirate (optional) and join the hunt for clues around ye olde Queensferry! Collect your Treasure Island maps from 1pm onwards and finish up at South Queensferry library for the best-dressed pirate competition

Free, no booking necessary.

Pirate Party and Treasure Hunt



Wester Hailes Library: 1.30 - 2.30pm



A special RLS Day children's event featuring stories, craft activity and a treasure hunt around the library.

Free, no booking necessary.

Children's Crafts with a Donkey (Sighthill)



Sighthill Library: 2pm



An afternoon of children's crafts with a donkey theme, in honour of Stevenson's *Travels with a Donkey*.

Free, no booking necessary.

Children's Crafts with a Donkey (Ratho)



Ratho Library: 2pm



An afternoon of children's crafts with a donkey theme, in honour of Stevenson's *Travels with a Donkey*.

Free, no booking necessary.

Kidnapped at South Queensferry Library



South Queensferry Library: 2 - 4pm



A family event for all ages, make your own treasure chest and listen to a reading from *Kidnapped* featuring an extract about the nearby Hawes Inn.

Free, no booking necessary.

Pirate Tea Party at Craigmillar Library



Craigmillar Library: 2pm

Come to Craigmillar Library for a great children's pirate tea party with pirate-themed crafts.



Free, no booking necessary.

Pirate Puppet Theatre



Central Library, George IV Bridge: 3 - 4pm

Make a puppet then put on a show in our mini puppet theatre. For 5 - 11 year olds.



Free but booking essential - visit edinburghreads.eventbrite.co.uk



SATURDAY 14 NOVEMBER

Pirates Treasure Hunt



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Afternoon Tea



Crafts



Exhibition



Families



Film Screening



Hidden RLS



Museum



Performance



Reading



Pirate Theme



Stage & Screen



Talk



Walk



**EDINBURGH
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Books Words Ideas

Stevenson **ON STAGE & SCREEN**

Robert Louis Stevenson Fellowship

As well as celebrating Stevenson's life and works, RLS Day also sees the launch of this year's Robert Louis Stevenson Fellowship, a residency programme which gives four writers the chance to develop new work in the spirit of Stevenson. Supported by Creative Scotland and run by the Scottish Book Trust, the Fellowship is a month-long residency at the Hôtel Cheillon International Arts Centre at Grez-sur-Loing in France, which allows writers to spend time with other artists and absorb fresh cultural experiences whilst having time and space to write.

**The Fellowships open for applications on
RLS's birthday, Friday 13 November 2015.**

**For more information please visit
scottishbooktrust.com/writing**

RLS Day is brought to you by the City of Literature Trust with grateful thanks to event partners and supporters.



#RLSday

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