

Book Launch – Outside the Beechwood by Ellie Buchanan and Lizzie Mikietyn

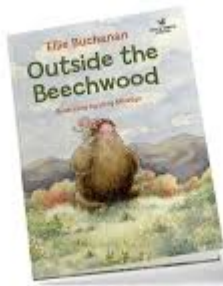
In Ellie Buchanan and Lizzie Mikietyn's beautiful new book *Outside the Beechwood*, readers will meet Macky, a great and furry creature – a young one of his kind – who lives tucked away in a secluded beechwood, never seeing anyone other than his fellow Mackys, and the occasional squirrel and badger who inhabit the wood.

But when Macky comes across an unknown little creature he decides to call a 'Smoothling', his life is set to change. The Smoothling asks Macky to take him home, and that means leaving the quiet woods and crossing moor and mountain to reach the world of people.

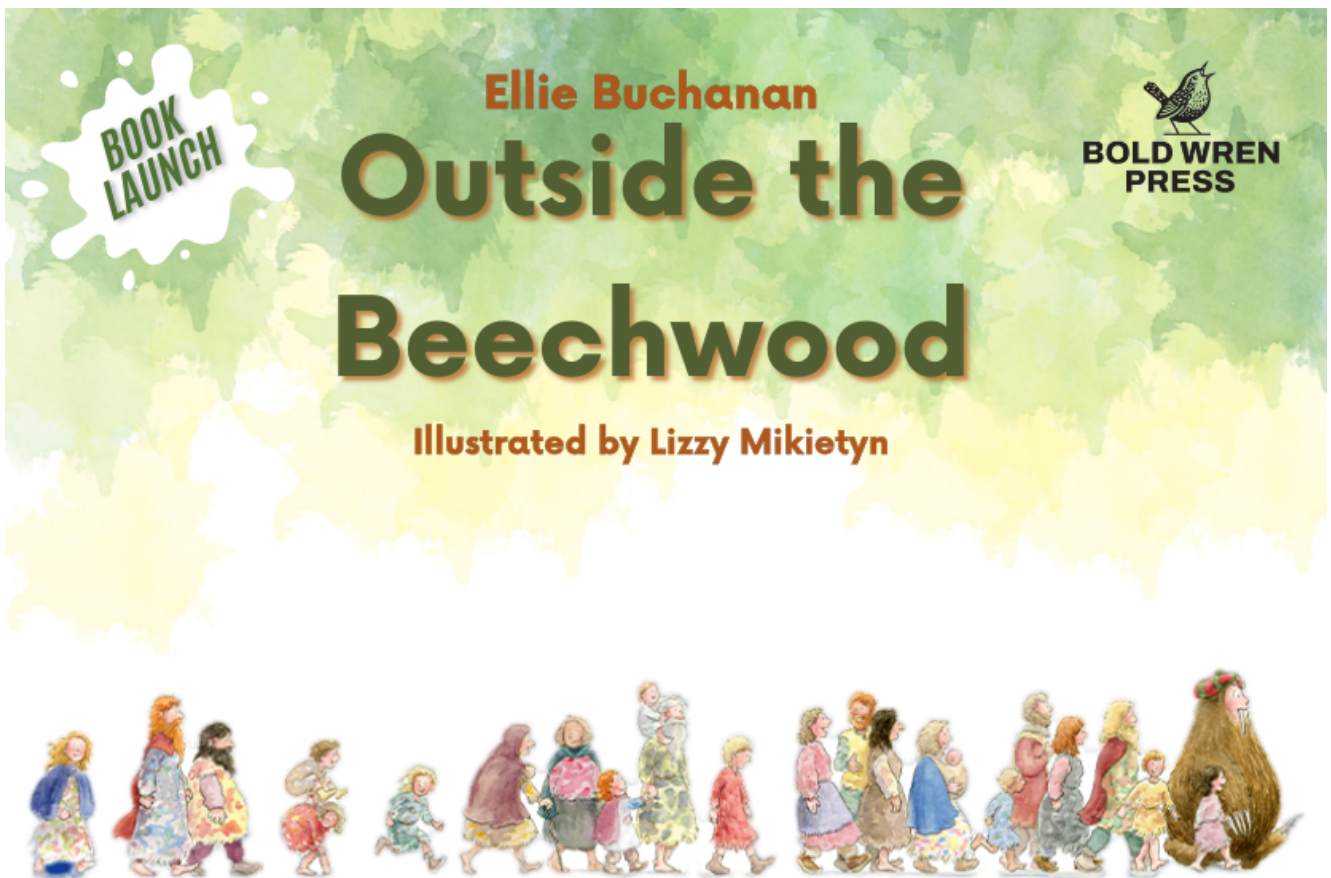
'Macky had only shuffled a few paces when the voice of the creature presently piped out, stopping him in his tracks: 'Excuse me' it said as it looked up at its rescuer....'Excuse me sir, but I've lost my way, and I hoped you could help me get home?'

Fostering a love of the Scottish Highlands, prompting a spirit of adventure, and encouraging curiosity and kindness, *Outside the Beechwood* is the perfect Christmas present for readers of any age – and for reading aloud to younger children.. Published by Bold Wren Press, this luxurious hardback has

Lizzie's colour illustrations throughout.



At 7pm on Thursday 12 December, join Ellie and Lizzie in the Storytelling Court of **The Scottish Storytelling Centre** (43-45 High Street) for the launch of their book. Come and hear Ellie read extracts from the story and see Lizzie's stunning illustrations. Free refreshments of juice, snacks, or a glass of wine with each ticket. Copies of the book (£15.99) will be on sale at the event, as will some of the book's original artwork.



Tickets cost just £5/£3.50 (+ booking fee) and may be booked [here](#) or by calling 0131 556 9579. The event is suitable for

everyone aged 8+; all attendees must have their own ticket, and children must be accompanied by an adult.

Ellie Buchanan is a rock climbing coach, outdoor guide, crofter, and therapist living in the North West Highlands of Scotland. Lizzie Mikiety, the daughter of a surrealist painter, is an Edinburgh-based cartoonist and illustrator. Bold Wren Press is a new Edinburgh independent publisher which says it has "the vision to bring you the very best new books".