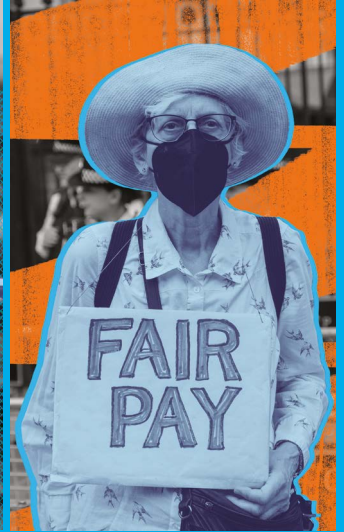


Wed 9  
— Fri 11  
August  
2023



**FESTIVAL OF POLITICS**

**AN FHÈIS PHOILITIGS**

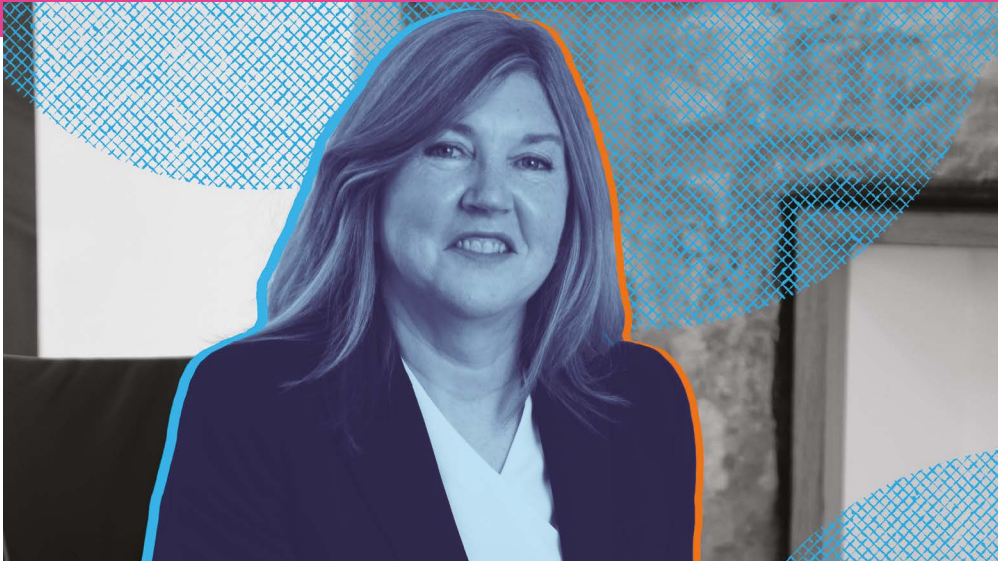
**BOOK YOUR TICKETS NOW AT [FESTIVALOFPOLITICS.SCOT](https://www.festivalofpolitics.scot)**



Scotland's Futures Forum  
Fòram Alba air Thoiseach



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba



## PRESIDING OFFICER'S WELCOME

I am delighted to welcome you all to Holyrood for this our 19th Festival of Politics. We present a programme that aims to engage people across Scotland, with events both in person and online on a range of issues, discussing everything from ethics in artificial intelligence to the future of Scotland's arts and culture sector.

We are pleased to welcome the broadcaster and former politician, Rt Hon Michael Portillo, the world's leading percussionist Dame Evelyn

Glennie OBE and Gustavo Dudamel, one of the most distinguished conductors of our day, among those speaking at this year's Festival.

We have a lively free programme of music, choirs, dance and exhibitions in the Festival Café Bar, where you are always assured a warm welcome. We look forward to seeing you all at your Scottish Parliament.

**Rt Hon Alison Johnstone MSP**  
Presiding Officer



## FÀILTE BHON OIFIGEAR RIAGHLAIDH

Tha e na thoileachas mòr dhomh fàilte a chur oirbh uile gu Taigh an Ròid airson na 19mh Fèis Phoilitigs againn. Tha sinn a' tabhann prògram a tha ag amas air daoine air feadh na h-Alba le tachartasan an dà chuid aghaidh ri aghaidh agus air-loidhne air raon de chuspairean, agus a' beachdachadh air a h-uile càil bho bheusachd ann an inntleachd fuadain (AI) gu roinn ealain is cultair na h-Alba san àm ri teachd.

Tha sinn air ar dòigh glan fàilte a chur air a' chraoladair a bha roimhe na neach-poilitigs, am Fìor Urr. Mìcheal Portillo; prìomh cluicheadair beum-chiùil an t-saoghail, Dame Evelyn Glennie

OBE; agus fear de na prìomh stiùirichean ciùil, Gustavo Dudamel, agus daoine eile na bhios a' bruidhinn aig Fèis na bliadhna-sa.

Tha prògram beothail de cheòl, còisirean, dannsa agus taisbeanaidhean againn ann am Bàr Café na Fèise far am bi fàilte chridheil oirbh uile. Tha sinn a' dèanamh fiughair ri bhith gur faicinn uile ann am Pàrlamaid na h-Alba.

**Am Fìor Urr. Alison Johnstone BPA**

Oifigear Riaghlaidh

## FESTIVAL PARTNERS



Scotland's Futures Forum  
Fòram Alba air Thoiseach



# WHAT'S ON

This programme is designed to inform audiences about the diverse range of events. Whether you're a political enthusiast or looking to learn more about the world around you, join us.

## MONDAY 7 AUGUST

Exploring community over chaos **AT THE HUB** 2:30pm - 3:45pm

## WEDNESDAY 9 AUGUST

In Conversation with Dame Evelyn Glennie OBE **BSL** 11:00am - 12:15pm

Is the West in decline? 11:30am - 1:00pm

Urgency of climate change & justice ahead of COP28 11:45am - 1:15pm

How to disagree agreeably **BSL** 1:45pm - 3:15pm

Volunteers and the state 2:00pm - 3:30pm

Ukraine 3:45pm - 5:15pm

Cheap food and mental health 4:00pm - 5:30pm

25 years of devolution in the UK 6:00pm - 7:30pm

Women of colour in politics and challenging racism 6:15pm - 7:45pm

## THURSDAY 10 AUGUST

Activism – vote for me 10:45am - 12:15pm

The future of broadcasting **BSL** 11:00am - 12:30pm

In Conversation with Rt Hon Michael Portillo **BSL** 1:00pm - 2:30pm

Workers' rights – who cares? 1:15pm - 2:45pm

Talking to boys and men about gender-based violence 3:00pm - 4:30pm

35 years since Section 28 3:15pm - 4:45pm

The future of Scotland's arts and culture 5:00pm - 6:30pm

Radical uses for Scotland's land 5:30pm - 7:00pm

## FRIDAY 11 AUGUST

Navigating migration 11:00am - 12:30pm

It's the economy, stupid 11:15am - 12:45pm

The language of poo 1:15pm - 2:45pm

Scotland's poverty problem **BSL** 1:30pm - 3:00pm

Scotland – a good global citizen? 3:30pm - 5:00pm

Where are the ethics in Artificial Intelligence? 4:00pm - 5:30pm

Aviation and the sustainability agenda 5:45pm - 7:15pm

Scotland's music venues 6:00pm - 7:30pm

## TUESDAY 15 AUGUST

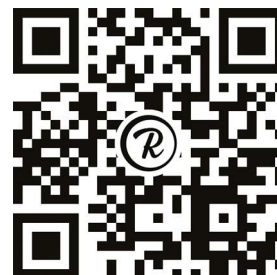
Exploring hope in the face of adversity **AT THE HUB** 2:30pm - 3:45pm

## MONDAY 21 AUGUST

Exploring a perspective that's not one's own **AT THE HUB** 2:30pm - 3:45pm

## FRIDAY 25 AUGUST

In Conversation with Gustavo Dudamel 11:00am - 12:15pm



We don't want you to miss out on any of the details. To make sure you're in the know, we've created a QR code for you to scan. Just take out your phone, open your camera app and hover over the code. It'll take you right to our event page where you can find out all the information you need. We can't wait to see you there!

# WEDNESDAY 9 AUGUST 2023



## In Conversation with Dame Evelyn Glennie OBE

In partnership with Edinburgh International Festival

11:00am - 12:15pm / £8.00, £6.00

Join the world's premier solo percussionist, **Dame Evelyn Glennie**, in conversation with **Deputy Presiding Officer Liam McArthur MSP** to discuss her career and her thoughts on this year's Edinburgh International Festival's theme - Where do we go from here? With over 40 solo recordings, she is a double Grammy award-winner and BAFTA nominee who composes for film, theatre and television. Awarded an OBE and with over 100 international awards, her charity, The Evelyn Glennie Foundation, embodies her lifelong mission to teach the world to listen and help to create a society where communication and social cohesion are improved by the act of listening.



## Is the West in decline?

In partnership with the Scottish Council on Global Affairs

11:30am - 1:00pm / £6.00, £4.00

The current international order has been creaking for the last decade, with the rise of populism in the West, and India, China and Russia all flexing various powers. What are the geopolitical repercussions for the West when we all face the global challenges of climate, poverty and health?



## Urgency of climate change & justice ahead of COP28

In partnership with the Cross-Party Group on Bangladesh

11:45am - 1:15pm / £6.00, £4.00

The plea of the world's low-lying nations can no longer be ignored. Efforts are slow and real commitment is needed to deliver climate justice to the vulnerable nations which are most impacted. Where is the will to act; and what needs to happen this year?



## How to disagree agreeably

In partnership with the John Smith Centre

1:45pm - 3:15pm / £6.00, £4.00

In an age where conflict culture and manufactured dissent seems to be actively encouraged, the art of debating, listening and learning from the other side has been overshadowed by rancour and adamant polarisation. How do we value the goal of both parties making a discovery, over being right?



## Ukraine

3:45pm - 5:15pm / £6.00, £4.00

Join the panel to discuss the causes and consequences of the annexation of Crimea and the Russian war in Ukraine. What are the global implications of the war on global economies, NATO, diplomacy, trade, and military support? And how will it end?



## Volunteers and the state

In partnership with the Cross-Party Group on Volunteering

2:00pm - 3:30pm / £6.00, £4.00

Volunteers contribute an estimated £5.5 billion to the Scottish economy each year, with over 2 million people giving their time freely. Are volunteers vital for the delivery of public services in Scotland or are they contributing to the erosion of the state by enabling cuts to services and undercutting paid jobs?

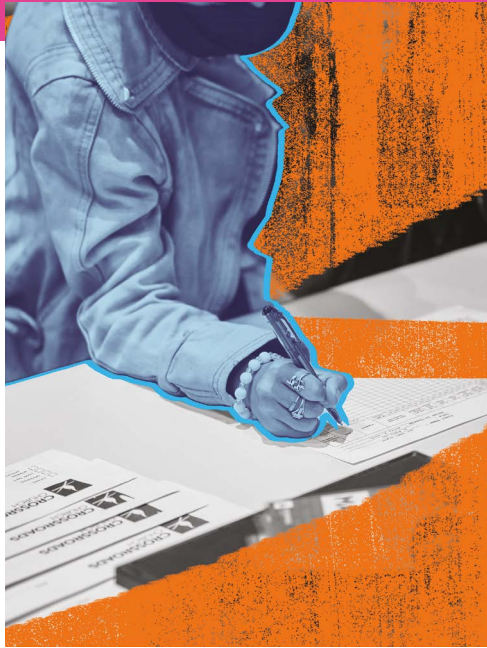


## Cheap food and mental health

In partnership with the Rowett Institute, University of Aberdeen

4:00pm - 5:30pm / £6.00, £4.00

Ultra-processed foods that are cheap, salty and sugary account for over 50% of our diet. Increasing evidence says that the food we eat is fuelling a mental health crisis. How does this impact as a social injustice and what are policymakers and manufacturers doing to address it?



## 25 years of devolution in the UK

In partnership with the David Hume Institute

6:00pm - 7:30pm / £6.00, £4.00

The devolution referendum of 1997 resulted in Scots voting for a Scottish Parliament. Wales, Northern Ireland and London all gained varying devolved powers from central UK Government. What have the gains and losses been? And what will the next 25 years see if devolution really is a process and not a single act?



## Women of colour in politics and challenging racism

In partnership with the Coalition for Racial Equality and Rights

6:15pm - 7:45pm / £6.00, £4.00

What has inspired women of colour to enter politics and/or be activists? And how has this intersected with their experiences as black and minority ethnic women? Join the panel to discuss the routes into – and effectiveness of – the conventional political system and activism?

# THURSDAY 10 AUGUST 2023



## Activism – vote for me

In partnership with Scottish Youth Parliament

10:45am - 12:15pm / £6.00, £4.00

Gen-Z can easily switch from demonstrations to digital campaigning on issues such as climate change or race equality. How effective is this form of activism in rendering societal change? And what does it mean for democratic politics if the same generation is disillusioned by conventional party politics?



## The future of broadcasting

In partnership with the University of Glasgow

11:00am - 12:30pm / £6.00, £4.00

What are the challenges for public service broadcasters, commercial streaming companies, and for us the audience in this new era of multi-television and screen watching? Who will provide trusted news programmes in an era of disinformation, and does it matter?

## EDINBURGH INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

The Festival of Politics is delighted to be in partnership with Edinburgh International Festival on a series of events that explore fundamental questions posed by Dr Martin Luther King, Jr's final book *Where Do We Go From Here: Chaos or Community?* The events invite you to engage with key creative thinkers who will galvanise all of us to rise to the challenge posed by Dr Martin Luther King, Jr's text.

### In Conversation with Dame Evelyn Glennie OBE

Wednesday 9 August 11:00am - 12:15pm

The Scottish Parliament / Tickets: £8.00, £6.00

Join the world's premier solo percussionist **Dame Evelyn Glennie** in conversation with **Deputy Presiding Officer Liam McArthur MSP** to discuss her career and her thoughts on this year's Edinburgh International Festival's theme – Where do we go from here? With over 40 solo recordings, she is a double Grammy award-winner and BAFTA nominee who composes for film, theatre and television. Awarded an OBE and with over 100 international awards, her charity, The Evelyn Glennie Foundation, embodies her lifelong mission to teach the world to listen and help to create a society where communication and social cohesion are improved by the act of listening.



FEATURE EVENT BSL 

### The future of Scotland's arts and culture – Where do we go from here?

Thursday 10 August 5:00pm - 6:30pm / The Scottish Parliament / Tickets: £6.00, £4.00

Arts leaders are warning that one quarter of arts organisations could go to the wall. What steps can be taken so future generations can enjoy art? What is the most sustainable arts and culture funding model to ensure the longevity of a world-renowned industry?

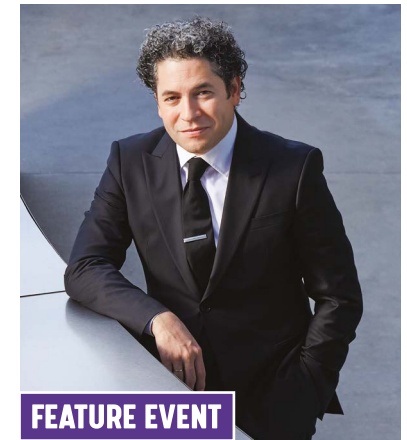
### In Conversation with Gustavo Dudamel

Friday 25 August 11:00am - 12:15pm

The Scottish Parliament / Tickets: £8.00, £6.00

Join **Clare Adamson MSP** in conversation with **Gustavo Dudamel**, one of the world's foremost music conductors of today. As Music and Artistic Director of the Los Angeles Philharmonic, and Music Director of the Opéra National de Paris and Simón Bolívar Symphony Orchestra, Gustavo conducted the Edinburgh International Festival event at Tynecastle in 2019 that opened the Festival with John Williams' music.

An enthusiastic believer in the ethos that music brings people together, he himself is an alumnus of El Sistema, and a vocal advocate for opportunity in music. He will discuss this as well as addressing the key question posed by the Edinburgh International Festival this year – Where do we go from here?



FEATURE EVENT

## THE HUB EVENTS

### Exploring community over chaos

7 August, 2:30pm - 3:45pm / The Hub / Free, tickets can be booked at [www.eif.co.uk](http://www.eif.co.uk)

Join composer Nigel Osborne and performance artist Travis Alabanza in a discussion about the importance of community, chaired by TV and radio presenter Gemma Cairney.

### Exploring hope in the face of adversity

15 August, 2:30pm - 3:45pm / The Hub / Free, tickets can be booked at [www.eif.co.uk](http://www.eif.co.uk)

Join a discussion with award-winning Scottish poet and playwright Jackie Kay and British-Iranian artist Fari Bradley to explore the power of hope and creativity in adverse circumstances.

### Exploring a perspective that's not one's own

21 August, 2:30pm - 3:45pm / The Hub / Free, tickets can be booked at [www.eif.co.uk](http://www.eif.co.uk)

Join author Dina Nayeri and cultural development specialist Fairouz Nishanova in a discussion about the power of listening to different perspectives, chaired by author and journalist Chitra Ramaswamy.

# THURSDAY 10 AUGUST 2023



FEATURE EVENT BSL 

## In Conversation with Rt Hon Michael Portillo

1:00pm - 2:30pm / £8.00, £6.00

**Rt Hon Michael Portillo** is a former Conservative Cabinet Minister turned journalist and broadcaster whose notable television series of *Great Railway Journeys* for BBC2 has taken him across five continents. His other documentaries, newspaper columns and broadcasting – including the BBC 1's *This Week* and Radio 4's *The Moral Maze* – have explored culture, ethics and politics across the decades. He now presents a show titled *Sunday with Michael Portillo* for GB News. Join **Deputy Presiding Officer Annabelle Ewing MSP** in conversation with Michael to discuss a life in politics and broadcasting and his strong family connections to Fife.



## Workers' rights – who cares?

1:15pm - 2:45pm / £6.00, £4.00

With a wave of strikes for better wages, pensions and conditions, how relevant are trade unions to a post-Covid workforce that may be self-employed or part of a globalised gig economy?

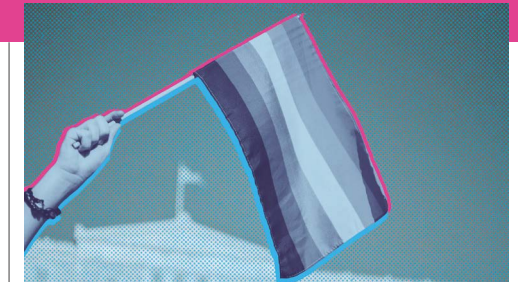


## Talking to boys and men about gender-based violence

In partnership with Glasgow Caledonian University

3:00pm - 4:30pm / £6.00, £4.00

How do we talk to boys and men in ways that will engage them and stop gender-based violence? What is being done in schools, with public education campaigns and with perpetrators to understand, challenge and change male attitudes and behaviour on harassment, assault and abuse?



## 35 years since Section 28

In partnership with the Cross-Party Group LGBTI+

3:15pm - 4:45pm / £6.00, £4.00

In 2000 Scotland was the first part of the UK to repeal the controversial Section 28 clause that banned the promotion of the acceptance of homosexuality in schools. What was the longer and immediate impact on LGBTI+ teachers and pupils and changing societal attitudes?





## The future of Scotland's arts and culture – where do we go from here?

In partnership with Edinburgh International Festival

5:00pm - 6:30pm / £6.00, £4.00

What are the next steps if future generations of performers and audiences are to thrive and what's the most sustainable arts and culture funding model? For further detail, please see page 12.



## Radical uses for Scotland's land

In partnership with the Rural Affairs and Islands Committee

5:30pm - 7:00pm / £6.00, £4.00

We use our land for many things, but how can we strike the right balance? What can we learn from international approaches? What could and should Scotland's land look like to create fair and sustainable communities for the future?

# FRIDAY 11 AUGUST 2023

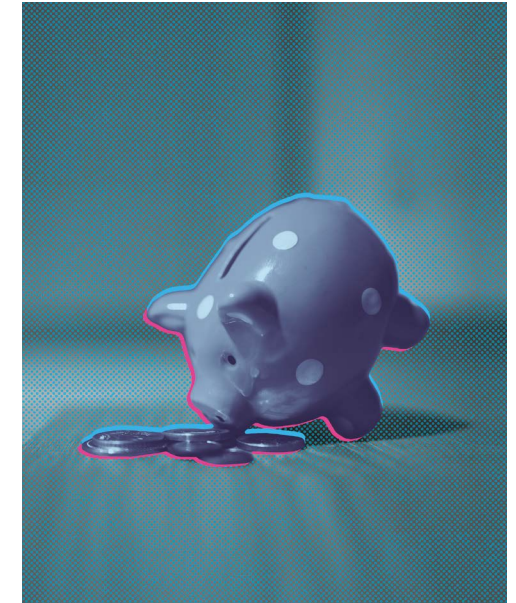


## Navigating migration

In partnership with the Cross-Party Group on Migration

11:00am - 12:30pm / £6.00, £4.00

The requirement to navigate the legalities of employment, education, housing, and detention is monumental and vital to survival and settlement in the UK. Join the panel to discuss the realities of migrants and asylum seekers as they negotiate their rights to work, study and live in the UK.



## It's the economy, stupid

In partnership with the Cross-Party Group on Social Enterprise

11:15am - 12:45pm / £6.00, £4.00

As Scotland emerges from the pandemic, new ideas of how our economy should work are taking hold: inclusive growth, social enterprise and circular economy, among them. What do they mean in practice? Can local communities be inspired to take part?



### **The language of poo. Can words disengage communities?**

In partnership with the Cross-Party Group on Inflammatory Bowel Disease and the Cross-Party Group on Health Inequalities

1:15pm - 2:45pm / £6.00, £4.00

Is current public health messaging 'turning off' some of our communities? Is the current process for developing public health messaging fit for purpose? Join the panel to discuss how we can create health messages to reduce health inequalities.



### **Scotland – a good global citizen?**

In partnership with the Cross-Party Group on International Development

3:30pm - 5:00pm / £6.00, £4.00

How does Scotland position itself in relation to the rest of the world at a time of huge political and economic upheaval? Join the panel as it assesses Scotland's role as a global citizen.

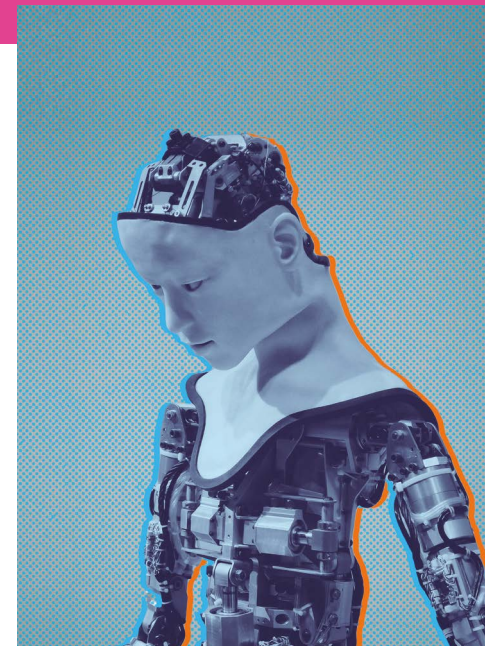


### **Scotland's poverty problem**

In partnership with Scotland's Futures Forum

1:30pm - 3:00pm / £6.00, £4.00

All political parties are committed to tackling child poverty, so why has more progress not been made? Does stigma hold back the debate? How can we build a healthier and fairer society for everyone in Scotland?



### **Where are the ethics in Artificial Intelligence?**

In partnership with the University of Edinburgh

4:00pm - 5:30pm / £6.00, £4.00

Humanity is on the brink of the most significant technological revolution thanks to advances in Artificial Intelligence. Is AI a tool with capacity to do great things or does it really herald human extinction? Who will control the new AI future and where do ethics fit into all of this?





## Aviation and the sustainability agenda: to fly or not to fly?

In partnership with the Cross-Party Group on Aviation

5:45pm - 7:15pm / £6.00, £4.00

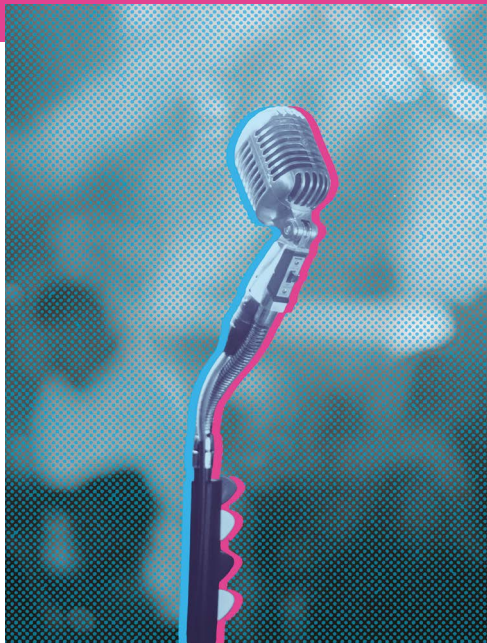
Is 'fly shaming' obscuring the air industry's drive and advances towards meeting zero carbon targets, as well as benefits to Scottish tourism and travel? Or is flying the inexcusable culprit when it comes to emissions and a 21st - century travel choice?



## FESTIVAL CAFÉ | BAR

Join us in the lively FREE Festival Café Bar for a programme of live music, choirs and exhibitions as part of this year's programme of free entertainment.

Please see the Festival of Politics website for the full line-up.



## Scotland's music venues

In partnership with the Cross-Party Group on Music

6:00pm - 7:30pm / £6.00, £4.00

Despite Scotland's worldwide reputation as a music nation, our grassroots music venues are under financial pressures, with many facing closure. How can politicians and the music industry work together to keep venues open and ensure Scotland continues to produce world-beating music talent for decades to come?

## FREE HOT DRINK

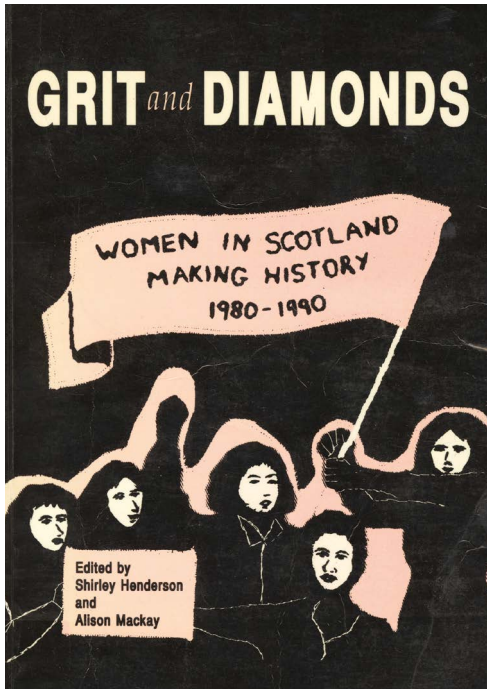
A free hot tea/coffee or flavoured water is available to all ticket-holders post-event.\*

\*This does not include any barista style teas or coffees.

## CRÈCHE

The crèche will be open on Wednesday 9th and Thursday 10th August between 10am and 6pm for anyone who wishes to book a place. Please contact 0131 348 6192 or email [creche@parliament.scot](mailto:creche@parliament.scot)

## EXHIBITIONS



### Grit and Diamonds

The exhibition in partnership with Glasgow Women's Library is a collection of archive materials in relation to two chapters from the book *Grit and Diamonds*. The book focuses on women as active and important contributors to Glasgow's history between 1980 and 1990 following very masculine narratives in Glasgow's approach to being a European City of Culture in 1990.



### Mental health and wellbeing amongst people navigating the asylum process

An exhibition from The Rights in Action project by the Poverty Alliance, in partnership with Maryhill Integration Network, that aims to raise awareness of the impact of migration on mental health and wellbeing. This very personal exhibition, by people seeking asylum now living in Scotland, expresses, in their own words and photographs, the feelings of isolation, depression and anxiety through images that range from beautiful personal art to Glasgow landscapes.

## TICKETING INFORMATION

All tickets can be booked online at [festivalofpolitics.scot](http://festivalofpolitics.scot) and will be available to buy up to two hours before each event. A limited number of tickets can be booked in person on the day at the Ticket Desk in the Festival Café Bar. Arrival at least 30 minutes prior to the event starting is advised. No phone bookings can be made.

### Other information

Information is correct at time of going to print but please check the online programme in advance of attending at [festivalofpolitics.scot](http://festivalofpolitics.scot). We reserve the right to change or cancel any event. We cannot offer refunds or exchanges unless an event is cancelled.

### Pricing

Concessions are available to children aged 5 -16 years, Young Scot card holders, people aged 60 and over, students, unemployed people and disabled people. Access to the Festival Café Bar and World Press Photo exhibition is FREE.

### Contact us

You can call us Monday to Friday 10:00am - 4:00pm on 0131 348 5000 or email [festivalofpolitics@parliament.scot](mailto:festivalofpolitics@parliament.scot)

### Privacy

Our privacy and data sharing policy can be found at [parliament.scot/privacy](http://parliament.scot/privacy)

## WITH THANKS TO



THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH



**WORLD PRESS PHOTO**

# EXHIBITION 2023

5 August  
– 26 August  
The Scottish  
Parliament

Free Entry  
Monday-Saturday  
[parliament.scot/wpp](http://parliament.scot/wpp)

[www.worldpressphoto.org](http://www.worldpressphoto.org)

LEE-ANN OLWAGE | BOB & DIANE FUND



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

STRATEGIC PARTNERS

