

McLellan Poetry Fringe

isle of arran

McLellan Poetry Fringe 2022

Arran Poets Night at the Brodick Bar Thursday 28th April at 7:30 pm

1. **Welcome and Intro from Carol Lee**

2. **Damion Beeson Bullen**

Damion is local Arran poet who has a small bookshop in Brodick, which has a good selection of poetry books to browse and buy over the Festival weekend. Damo will be reading from his new book "Black Watch Brodick", which tells the story of a group of young men from Arran who worked together, joined the army together on the same day, then fought and died together at the Battle of Loos in 1915.



3. **Jules Lee** (*aka Lee Macalister*).

Jules lives in Lamlash with his wife Carol after they made their home here on Arran four years ago. Jules started writing poetry when he attended a creative writing class while he was living in Southern California in 1996. He still writes occasionally when there's a muse around, and will be reading a few of his poems to us this evening.



4. **Eildh How** (*also known locally on Arran as Helen*)

Eilidh How (otherwise Helen) is a professional writer. After a career as a journalist, copywriter and writing teacher and having had her creative writing published in national publications she now writes for pleasure. Winner of the Robin Whyte Creative Writing Award (presented by North Ayrshire and USA Robbie Burns Society), Eilidh has led Writers Workshops throughout Scotland and England. English by birth (and by accent!) Eilidh's roots are Gaelic and she loves the language and the richness it reveals in the Arran Landscape.



5. **Cicely Gill- A selection of poems**

Cicely has lived on Arran for many years and writes poems, novels and plays.

“Having been a jeweller for many years and then a counsellor, I thought it was time to let writing dominate my life. Surely after two careers, two children and four grandchildren, an English childhood and a long marriage on a Scottish island, I could write a book worth reading. I had been practising my whole life.

‘Ivory’ is my fifth novel but my first crime novel and my publishing debut. I also write plays, short stories and poems (www.arranpoetry.co.uk)”



6. **Gillian Lockhart**

Forty years ago Gillian Lockhart came to Arran for the weekend. She started writing poems and making art as a response to the people and the environment around her.

She's still here.

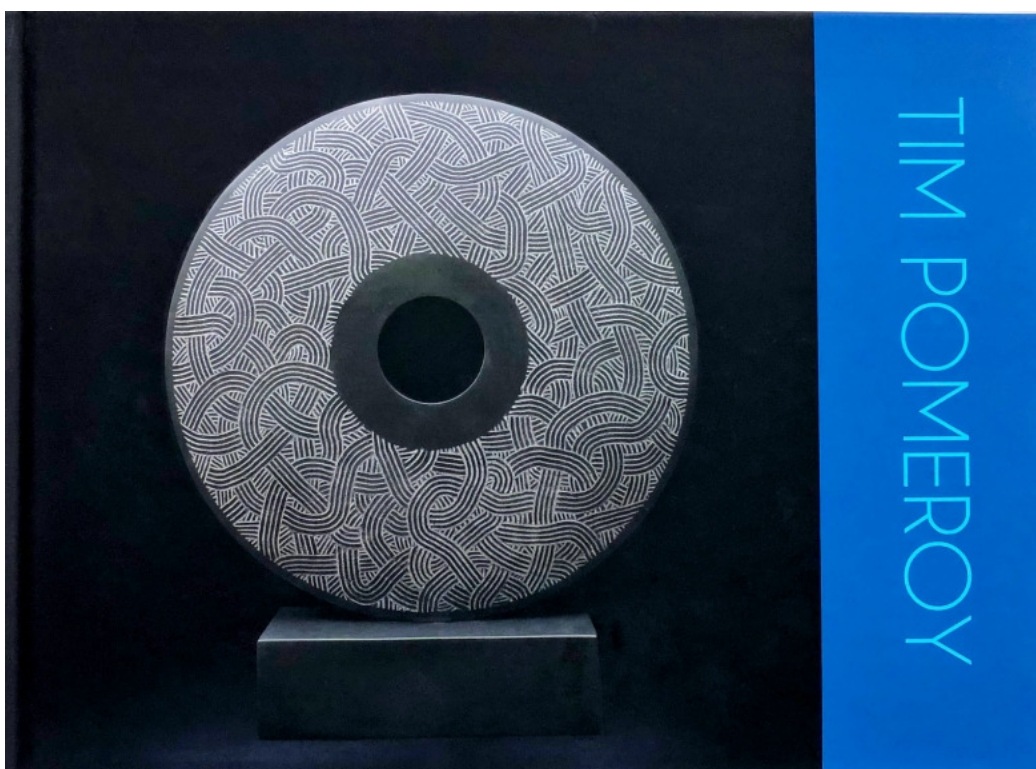


7. **Tim Pomeroy**

Tim Pomeroy is an Arran resident and renowned sculptor, musician and poet.

In 2020 he had a very successful solo show with his new London gallery Beaux Arts London. And in December 2021 had his fourth solo exhibition with The Fine Arts Society in Edinburgh. A book of his life and work to date was published on the 18th November 2021 and is available via the Fine Art Society or directly from Tim's website.

Tonight, Tim will be performing one or two of his wonderful folk songs and will be treating us to a poem of two into the bargain.



8. **Lorna Sherry**

Lorna also lives on the island and has been writing ever since she could physically write. She attended Alison Prince's writing group in Brodick. At university she was lucky enough to have Carol Rumens as her poetry tutor and there she formed a lasting friendship with the Irish poet, Nessa O' Mahoney . Lorna has had some success with poetry and short stories in journals in England, Wales and Ireland.



9. **David Underdown**

David moved to Arran in 1998 and for many years was an active participant in the Arran poetry scene. He was a co-organiser of the McLellan Poetry Competition from 2012 to 2019. *Jigsaw* is his third Cinnamon collection following *Time Lines* (2011) and *A Sense of North* (2019). His work has appeared in many journals and anthologies and last year he was the winner of the Wells Festival Poetry Competition. He now lives in Hebden Bridge in the Calder Valley and in autumn 2021 his pamphlet *Snig*, was published by Calder Valley Poetry.

We are delighted that David is back with us here on Arran tonight for the launch of his latest collection "Jigsaw".



There will be **books for sale** by David, Gillian, Damo and several of our other wonderful poets. Here tonight after David's book launch this evening.