

## Award-winning author to teach tolerance through picture books

Tour dates are included in this release. If you are interested in an interview with Ed Vere or would like a reporter or photographer to attend one of the events please contact:

[Lindsay.clydesdale@scottishbooktrust.com](mailto:Lindsay.clydesdale@scottishbooktrust.com) or 0131 524 0175



*Ed Vere is an award-winning and New York Times bestselling author and illustrator*

The [Scottish Friendly Children's Book Tour](#) is to bring award-winning author and illustrator Ed Vere to schools in East Dunbartonshire, West Dunbartonshire and North Ayrshire from 23 to 27 October.

Ed will be speaking to children about tolerance through the power of picture books. The event will feature wonderful interactive storytelling and draw-along activities. The tour is sponsored by Scottish Friendly and run by Scottish Book Trust.

Ed Vere's books include the renowned *Max* series, featuring the fearless kitten Max, *Banana* and *Bedtime for Monsters*. The first book in this series, *Max the Brave*, was a New York Times bestseller and was listed in the Sunday Times '100 Modern Children's Classics'. In 2009, Ed's book *Mr Big* was selected for the Booktrust's first Booktime programme and 750,000 copies were sent to schools across the UK. Ed's books encourage readers to think about the themes of friendship, tolerance and sharing.

Ed's latest book, *Grumpy Frog*, features a frog who is *not* grumpy at all. He loves hopping and winning, and he really loves green, not pink. But when – horror of horrors – a pink rabbit hops into view, can grumpy frog learn to compromise, develop friendships and apologise for his terrible tantrums?

### **Commenting on the tour, Ed said:**

"I'm thrilled to be on the road for an exciting week of reading and drawing with children in schools around Scotland."



**Commenting on Ed's tour, David Strain, Scottish Friendly's Community Manager, said:**

"We are very excited and look forward to having Ed join us on tour for the first time. Ed is certain to deliver powerful and thought-provoking ideas to pupils, as well as inspiring them with his amazing illustrations."

**Marc Lambert, CEO of Scottish Book Trust, added:**

"We are really looking forward to visiting schools with Ed Vere and the Scottish Friendly tour. This is a wonderful opportunity for pupils to meet an author and illustrator whose stories are excellent examples of friendship and tolerance.

It's also a great chance for the pupils to learn how to draw Ed's well-known characters, and create their own stories."

### **Notes to Editors**

For media enquiries, interviews and images, please contact Lindsay Clydesdale, Media and PR Manager: [Lindsay.clydesdale@scottishbooktrust.com](mailto:Lindsay.clydesdale@scottishbooktrust.com) or 0131 524 0175.

After every tour, Scottish Book Trust's website features case studies and resources to show the impact of the tour on the pupils we visit: [www.scottishbooktrust.com](http://www.scottishbooktrust.com)

### **Tour dates and times for media and photographers to attend are below.**

Please RSVP to: [Lindsay.clydesdale@scottishbooktrust.com](mailto:Lindsay.clydesdale@scottishbooktrust.com) or 0131 524 0175.

#### **Monday, 23 October (West Dunbartonshire)**

Jamestown Primary School 9.30am – 10.30am

Bonhill Primary School 1.30pm – 2.30pm

#### **Tuesday, 24 October (East Dunbartonshire)**

Craigdhu Primary School 10.30am – 11.30am



### **(West Dunbartonshire)**

St Eunan's Primary School 1.30pm – 2.30pm

### **Wednesday, 25 October (East Dunbartonshire)**

Balmuildy Primary School 9.15am – 10.15am

Lennoxton Primary School 1.15pm – 2.15pm

### **Thursday, 26 October (North Ayrshire)**

St Mark's Primary School (Irvine) 10.15am – 11.15am

St. Anthony's Primary School 1.15pm – 2.15pm

### **Friday, 27 October (North Ayrshire)**

St Winning's Primary School 9.15am – 10.15am

St Bridget's Primary School and Early Years 1.30pm – 2.30pm

### **About the Scottish Friendly Children's Book Tour**

The Scottish Friendly Children's Book Tour, organised by Scottish Book Trust, has been running for 19 fruitful years. It tours throughout Scotland's urban, rural and remote communities and visits every single Scottish local authority on a three-year cycle. Every year the tour also brings the best writers living and working in Scotland to England, to inspire pupils. The tour visits both primary and secondary schools and has enthralled over 90,000 children since it began in 1998.

Every year there are six Scottish Friendly Children Book tours – four in Scotland and two in England, visiting a vast range of different communities: from rural schools with an eight pupil roll in Mouswald, to 400-seat theatres in Glasgow. The tour visits both primary and secondary schools and has enthralled over 90,000 children since it began in 1998.

### **About Scottish Friendly**

Scottish Friendly, one of the UK's largest mutual life offices, is a progressive and modern financial services group. It provides investors and their families with a wide range of affordable investments.

Scottish Friendly has sponsored the programme for the past 19 years, touring some of the finest children's authors and illustrators including former Children's Laureate Chris Riddell,



Malorie Blackman, Michael Rosen, Jacqueline Wilson, Melvin Burgess, Steve Cole, Michael Morpurgo and Sophie McKenzie.

Scottish Friendly is very engaged in the community and works with Scottish Book Trust to provide fresh and exciting content on its website: [www.scottishfriendly.co.uk](http://www.scottishfriendly.co.uk) @scotfriendly [www.facebook.com/scottishfriendly](http://www.facebook.com/scottishfriendly)

### **About Scottish Book Trust**

Scottish Book Trust is a national charity changing lives through reading and writing. We inspire and support the people of Scotland to read and write for pleasure through programmes and outreach work that include:

- Gifting books to every child in Scotland to ensure families of all backgrounds can share the joy of books at home.
- Working with teachers to inspire children to develop a love of reading, creating innovative classrooms activities, book awards and author events.
- Supporting Scotland's diverse writing community with our training, awards and writing opportunities.
- Funding a range of author events for the public to enjoy and promoting Scottish writing to people worldwide.

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