

Ministry of Tourism, Equality, Social Services and Housing

## PRESS RELEASE

No: 321/2016

Date: 27th June 2016

## UK Celebrities to Repeat Gibunco Gibraltar International Literary Festival Experience

Ten television personalities, presenters and media celebrities will be returning to the fourth Gibunco Gibraltar International Literary Festival due to popular demand.

The prestigious event takes place from 20th October to 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2016.

Revisiting the Rock will be author Nick Rankin and university professor Maggie Gee, for a joint event where they will be examining the creative process inherent to writing and focusing on local history from the Neanderthals to World War II. The husband and wife team are both well known in the UK literary circuit.

Professor Gee has written 14 books with some of her works examining post-colonial themes.

For his part Nick Rankin has been a BBC broadcaster for 20 years and has authored four books including 'lan Fleming's Commandos, the story of 30 Assault Unit in WWII.'

Prajwal Parajuly the acclaimed Nepali-Indian author whose works focus on Nepali-speaking people and their culture has also been invited to participate.

The Gibraltar Tourist Board has also confirmed some of the celebrity speakers who will be making a welcome return for the 2016 Literary Festival.

They are broadcaster Nicholas Parsons, actress Maureen Lipman, Chef Anthony Worral Thomson, Sky Sports presenter and football commentator Guillem Balague, journalist William Chislett, former Moroccan Government Minister Driss Alaoui, and popular science writer Chris Lloyd.

Nicholas Parsons will be repeating his now legendary 'Just a Minute' BBC radio and television show adapted to Gibraltar and will also present a portrait of Edward Lear.

Chris Lloyd, a favourite with younger audiences and known for his famous multi-coloured coat of pockets, will be continuing his successful 'What on Earth?' school presentations on the subjects of



Shakespeare, British History and Science.

William Chislett will be continuing his series of talks on contemporary Spain.

Author Thomas Mogford will be discussing his Spike Sanguinetti sleuth thriller series.

Minister for Tourism, Samantha Sacramento MP, said: "We are extremely pleased that some of the festival 'family' who are very popular in Gibraltar, want to return to participate once again in our literary festival. It is a measure of the success and the special nature of our festival that so many of those who participate wish to come back.

"It is also a measure of the success of our event led tourism policy which works across the board, not just with the visitors to Gibraltar who keep coming back, but also with those who are themselves protagonists at the centre of the cultural events provided by the Gibraltar Government, who wish to repeat the Gibraltar experience.

"We are confident that with the gallery of top names that we have lined up for this year, the festival will be another resounding success."