

**Scottish Poetry Library**  
**5 Crichton's Close**  
**Canongate**  
**Edinburgh**  
**EH8 8DT**

### **Building accessibility**

The Scottish Poetry Library aims to be as accessible as possible for all users.

We hope this information will be of help if you are planning to visit the library or borrow books through our postal borrowing system.

If you find you require any help during your visit, please tell us. If you would like someone to show you round the building on your first visit, we'll be happy to do so.

We welcome any questions, comments or suggestions you may have. Please contact [reception@spl.org.uk](mailto:reception@spl.org.uk) or 0131 557 2876.

### **Building access**

You do not need to negotiate any steps to get into the library. Please be aware there is a steep slope up from Holyrood Road, and a gentle slope down from Canongate. Cars can drop off visitors at the door of the library, by driving up Gentle's Entry Holyrood Road. The Canongate access is blocked to cars by a bollard.

There is a push pad which can be used to open the front door, but should you want to alert staff attention please call 0131 557 2876.

A lift connects all three levels of the building:

**ground floor**, where most of the collection is stored, Meeting Room 1 is and the reception desk is situated

**mezzanine level**, where most events are held and Meeting Room 2

**basement**, where a wheelchair-accessible toilet is situated next to the lift

The lift doors open to approximately 80cm wide. The narrowest space to negotiate is on the mezzanine level past the journal racks when they are moved to position during events – this is approximately 76-78cm wide.

### **Toilets**

There are two gender neutral toilets in the Scottish Poetry Library. One is larger and more accessible:

- The toilet door opens to approximately 80cm.
- The transfer space is to the left and measures approximately 136cm wide.
- The height of the toilet is 40cm.
- There is a flip down handle at a height of 88cm when deployed, and a length of 75cm.
- The sink is at a height of 72cm.

- There is a baby change facility located inside this toilet.

### **For D/deaf users**

There is a portable hearing loop which you can use when talking to staff or for events. Please ask a member of staff. It is a Geemarc LoopHear.

### **For blind and visually-impaired users**

Material in our collections in Braille, large print and audio formats is listed in our catalogue, which can be found here: <http://spl.koha-ptfs.eu/>

Our events programme is available in large print on request.

### **Parking**

Crichton's Close parking restrictions (double yellow lines) do not allow parking at any time, although unloading is allowed. Blue badge holders may be able to park on the double yellow lines.

It is not possible to drive from the Canongate into Crichton's Close, although taxis are usually willing to stop on the Canongate beside Crichton's Close (next to Starbucks) to let passengers out. Taxis and other cars can also drive up to the close from Holyrood Road: ask the driver to find the Tun building on Holyrood Road, then turn up Gentle's Entry and turn right into Crichton's Close.

Parking is available at the following car parks closest to Scottish Poetry Library:

[Waverley Station long stay carpark](http://www.networkrail.co.uk/aspx/9494.aspx) <http://www.networkrail.co.uk/aspx/9494.aspx>

[St John's Hill](http://www.ncp.co.uk/car-park.html?cpid=800319&name=St%20Johns%20Hill) <http://www.ncp.co.uk/car-park.html?cpid=800319&name=St%20Johns%20Hill>

[Our Dynamic Earth](#): 10 parking bays for vehicles with disabled pass. Please note that parking access for wheelchair users is limited to when the building itself is open, and access involves 2 lifts. Call 0131 550 7800 or see [www.dynamicearth.co.uk](http://www.dynamicearth.co.uk) for opening times, which change through the year.

### **Public Transport**

Lothian Buses service 35 stops on Canongate directly opposite Crichton's Close, the location of the Scottish Poetry Library. All Lothian buses are easy access. More information can be found here:

<https://lothianbuses.co.uk/about-us/community/accessible-buses>

### **Events**

If you are booking a ticket for an event within the Scottish Poetry Library programme, we will ask you to pay for your own ticket but will be happy to offer a free ticket if you require a companion to come with you.

We cannot guarantee that events held in our building but organised by other groups or organizations will apply the same offer, but we will strongly recommend that they do so.

Please tell us when you are booking your ticket if you have any access requirements, so that we can set aside the appropriate tickets and make sure there is a convenient space at the event.

### **Postal Borrowing**

You can become a borrower for free, by filling in the attached form and sending us a photocopy of an amenities bill or other document that confirms your address.

You can then borrow by post, by emailing [reception@spl.org.uk](mailto:reception@spl.org.uk), calling 0131 557 2876 or writing to us with details of the item(s) you wish to borrow. The item is posted to you along with a Freepost label for its return.

Postal borrowing is available for free to disabled and D/deaf users. If you are entitled to this service, please let us know when you apply to become a borrower.

We make every effort to comply with the Data Protection Act and store and use borrowers' details securely and with consideration. Further details are in the borrowers' forms and the confirmation letter you will receive as a new borrower.