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The Gibunco Gibraltar International Literary Festival website

The Gibunco Gibraltar International Literary Festival today launches its official festival website. By clicking onto gibraltarliteraryfestival.com, visitors can now buy tickets for this year's festival and subscribe to the official e-zine containing all the latest news as well as information on authors and events taking place at the festival.

The Festival, the first of its kind on the Rock, is an initiative of Her Majesty's Government of Gibraltar and is directed by the organisers of the Oxford Literary Festival. It takes place from Friday 25th- Sunday 27th October 2013. Alongside a stellar line-up of international authors including prize-winning author Joanne Harris and Man Booker Prize winner Ben Okri, the programme reflects the rich cultural heritage that comes from Gibraltar's location between Europe and Africa and from the influence of the Mediterranean and the Atlantic.

Richard Hamilton will recount the tale of how he tracked down the last few remaining storytellers of the Marrakech Medina to record their tales for his book, *The Last Storytellers: Tales from the Heart of Morocco*. Whilst Tom Mogford and Jason Webster authors of thrillers set in the Mediterranean will bring a sense of danger to the Festival as they discuss crime in the sun. Novelist, and former Moroccan culture minister, Mohammed Achaari will take part in an event, as will a range of Spanish authors including Mercedes Aguirre.

Three of the world's most celebrated chefs and cookery writers, Claudia Roden, Ken Hom and Madhur Jaffrey will bring flavours from around the world to Gibraltar; other well-known globetrotters joining the Festival include former BBC foreign correspondent Kate Adie, and, from closer to home, the Gibraltar mystery writing duo Sam Benady and Mary Chiappe.

"The launch of the Festival website, which has the capability of selling tickets for all of the numerous events in the programme, brings us a step closer to what promises to become one of the major highlights of Gibraltar's cultural calendar", said The Hon Neil Costa MP, Minister for Tourism, Commercial Affairs, Public Transport and the Port. "Gibraltar has never seen such a stellar line-up of talent come together to celebrate their literary richness with us. I'm delighted that some of our very own authors will have the opportunity to share their stories with such world-renowned writers. I, personally, am looking forward to

attending as many events as I'm able to and I encourage anyone who has any interest in literature to do so too."

- Ends -

Note to Editors:

The Festival's Facebook and Twitter Pages are also launched today.

Facebook: www.facebook.com/gibraltarliteraryfestival

Twitter: @GibraltarLitFes